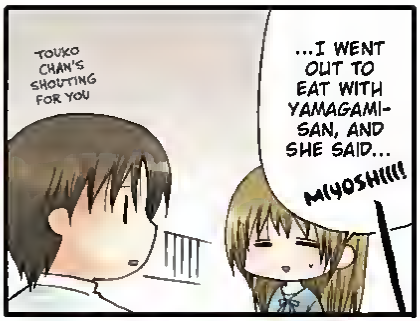
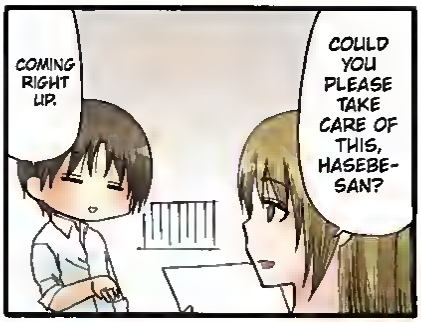
SERVANT
SERVANT×SERVICE
3
Karino Takatsu
ERVICE.3

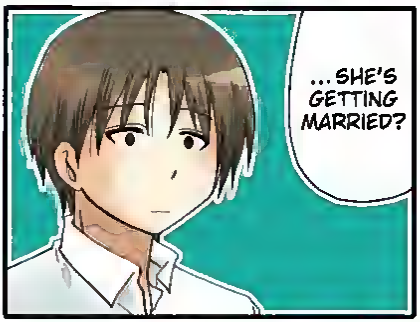
SERVANT × SERVICE

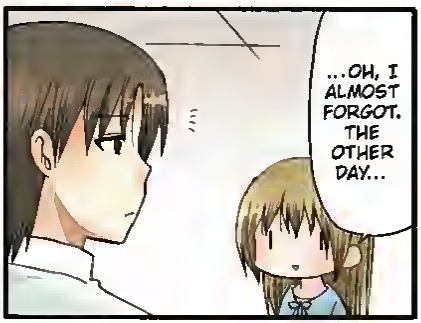
WORK:42 003
WORK:43 009
WORK:44 015
WORK:45 023
WORK:46 031
WORK:47 037
WORK:48 043
WORK:49 051
WORK:50 057
WORK:51 065
WORK:52 081
WORK:53 087
WORK:54 093
WORK:55 101
WORK:56 107
WORK:57 113
SIDE STORY ① 121
SIDE STORY ② 129
SIDE STORY ③ 137

Table of Contents


TOUKO CHAN'S SHOUTING FOR YOU
...I WENT OUT TO EAT WITH YAMAGAMI-SAN, AND SHE SAID...
MIYOSHI!!!!

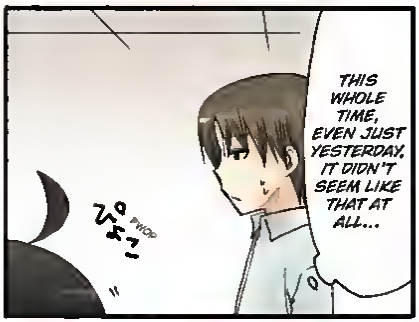

COMING RIGHT UP.
COULD YOU PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THIS, HASEBE-SAN?

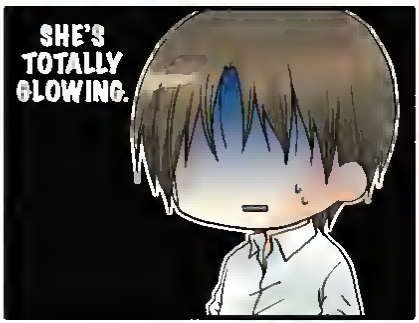

...SHE'S GETTING MARRIED?


...OH, I ALMOST FORGOT. THE OTHER DAY...

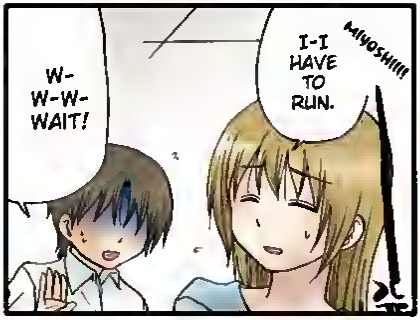
WORK:42
HUH?
SERVANT X SERVICE

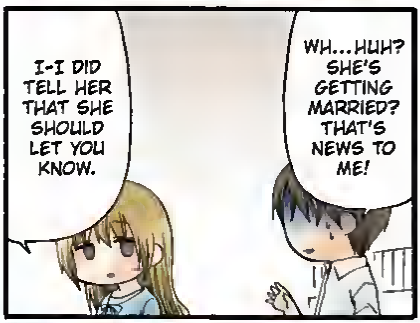
PROOF OF HAPPINESS

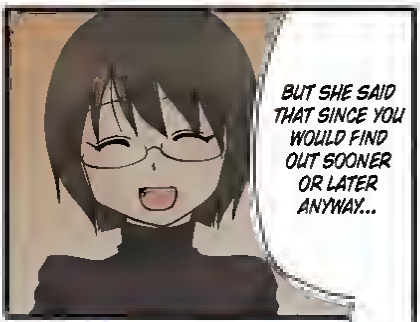


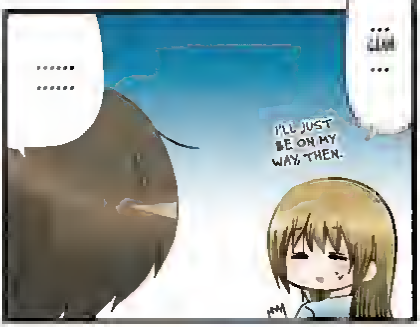


SUDDEN CONFESSION

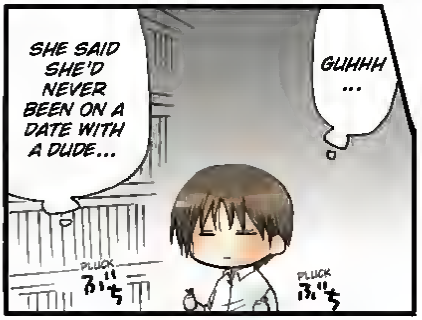


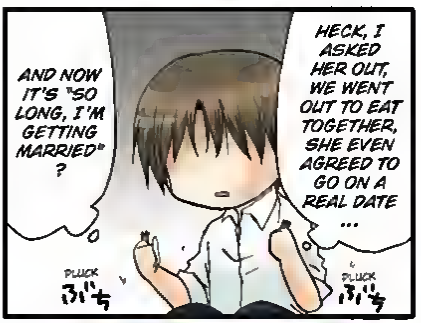


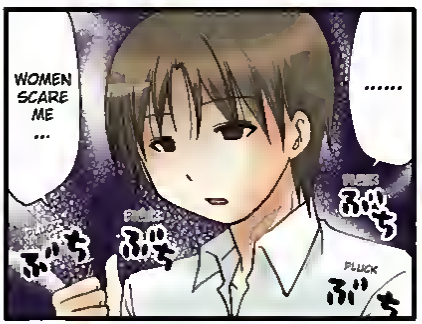




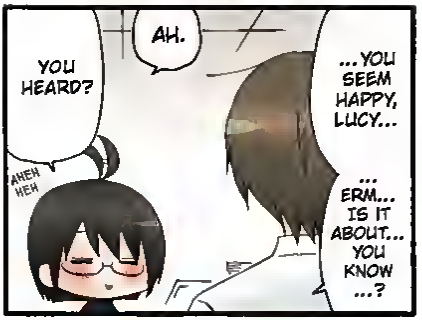
WOMEN'S HEARTS & THE AUTUMN SKY

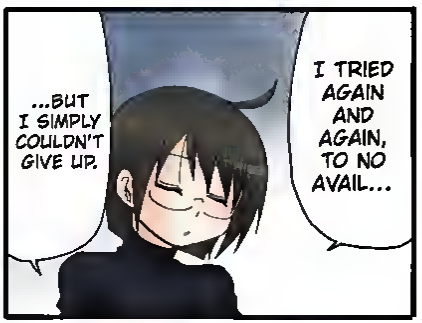


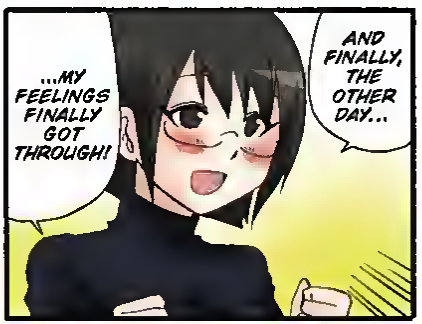

AND NOW IT'S "SO LONG, I'M GETTING MARRIED" ?
HECK, I ASKED HER OUT, WE WENT OUT TO EAT TOGETHER, SHE EVEN AGREED TO GO ON A REAL DATE...
PLUCK ぶちぶち
PLUCK ぶちぶち

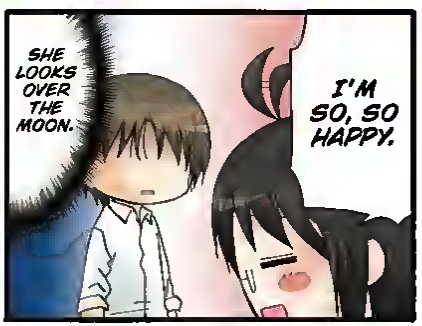


A YEARS-LONG LOVE

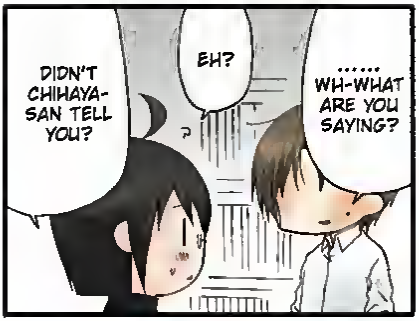


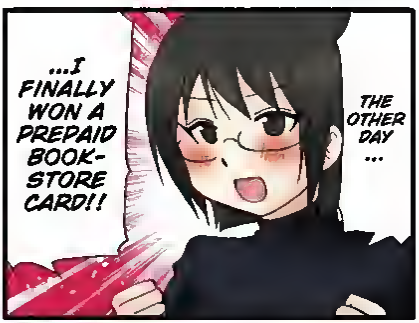


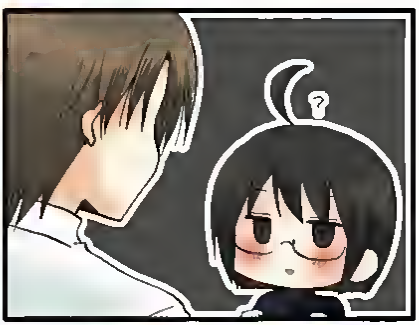


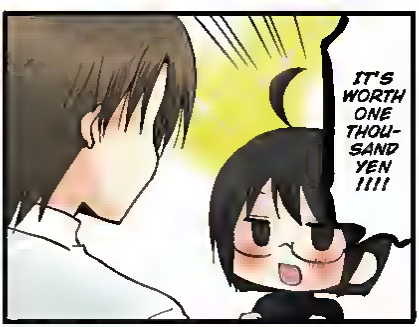


STATISTICAL MIRACLE

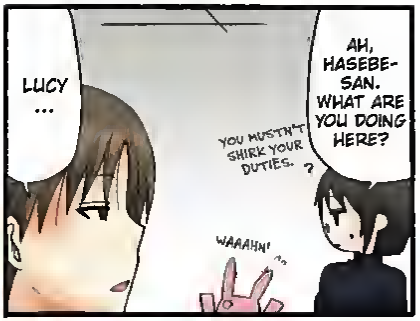


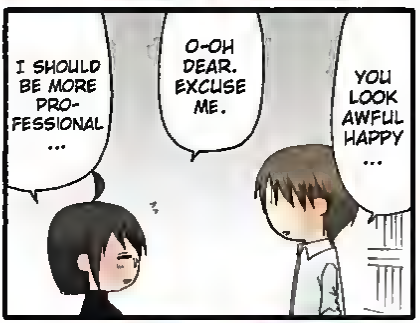


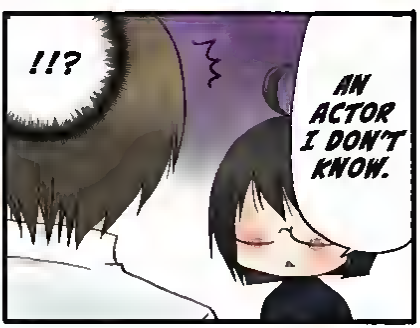




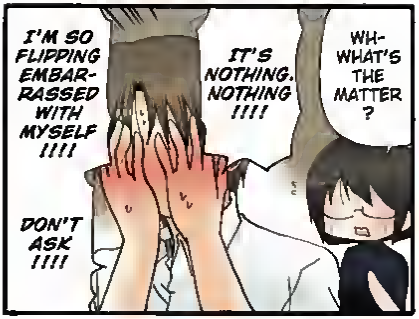
WHO'S THE LUCKY MAN?

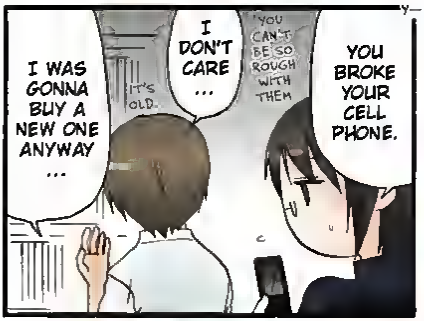


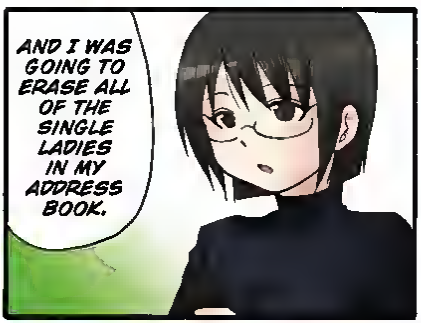


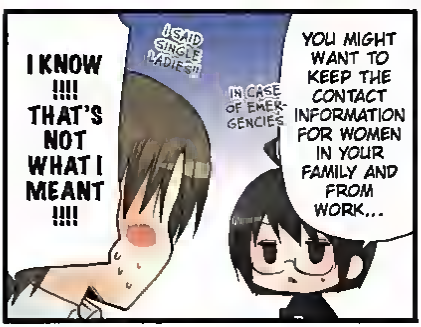


EMBARRASSMENT +20%

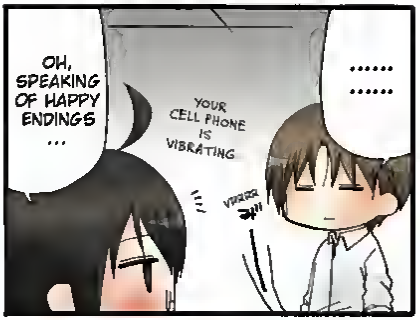


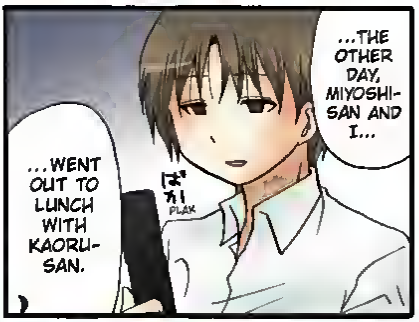




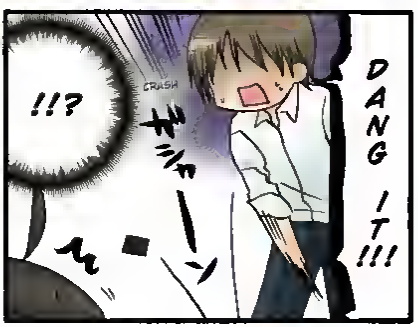

I KNOW !!!! THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT !!!!
I SAID SINGLE LADIES!!
IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES
YOU MIGHT WANT TO KEEP THE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR WOMEN IN YOUR FAMILY AND FROM WORK...

HAPPY ENDINGS

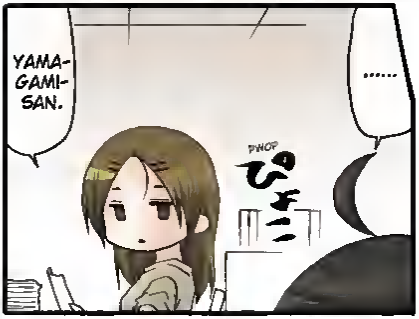


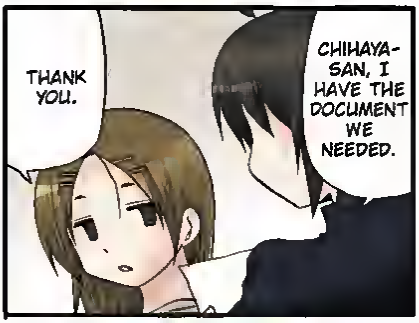


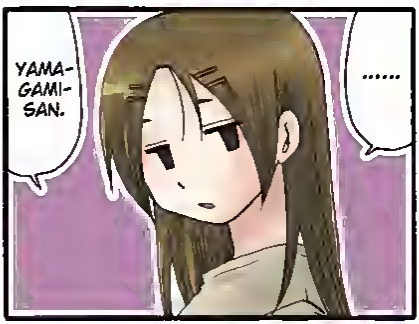
CONGRATULATIONS!!
Kaoru Hasebe
I guess I'd better tell you now. Your big sis is going to get married! It's my happily ever after!
KAORU-SAN SAID SHE'S GETTING MARRIED?



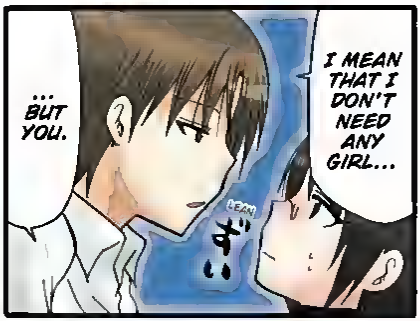
AN INSUPPRESSIBLE SOMETHING

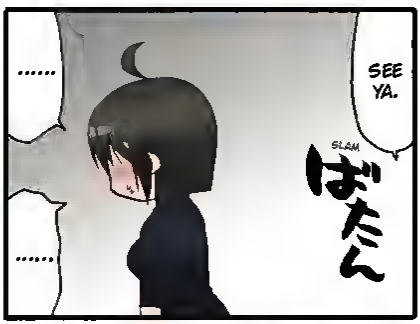


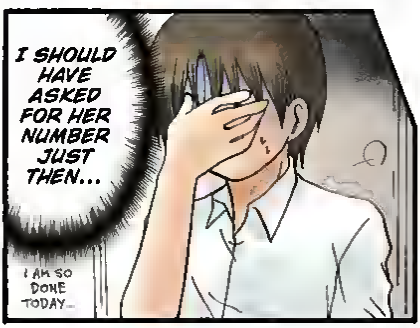


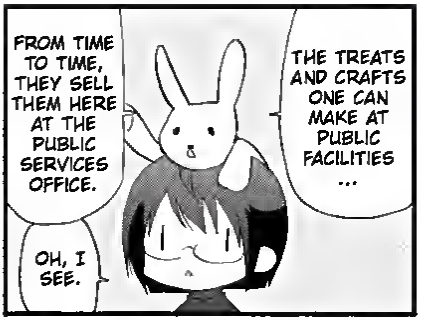


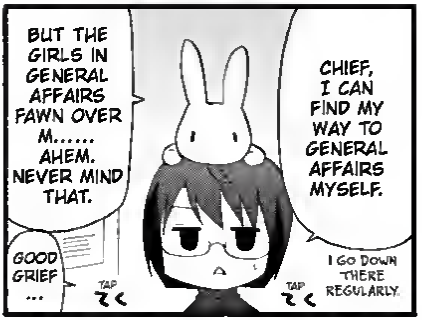
THE SOLE NUMBER

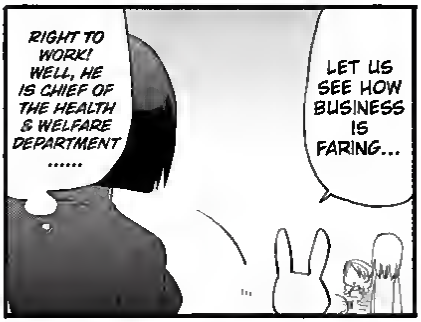


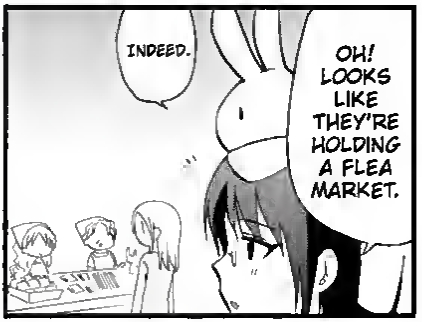




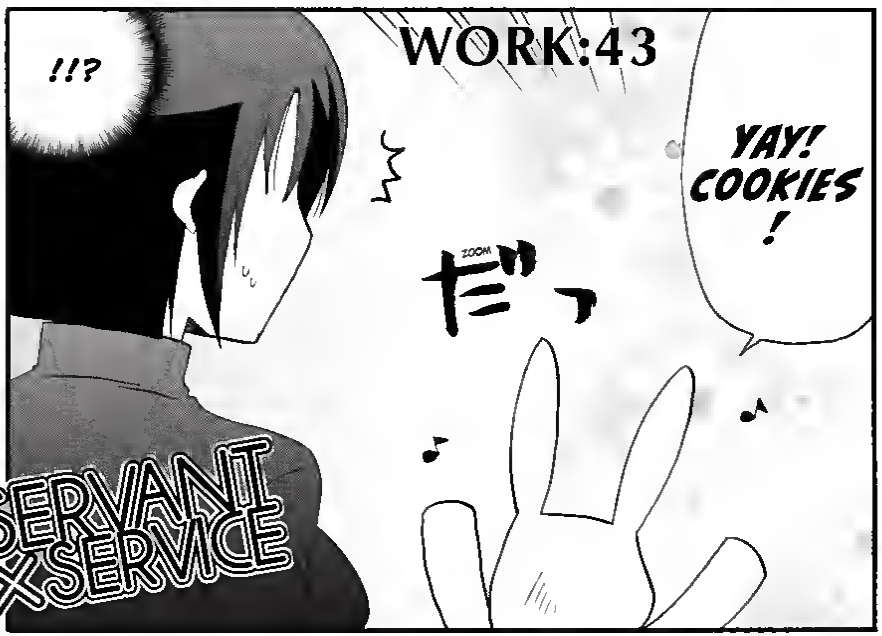

FROM TIME TO TIME, THEY SELL THEM HERE AT THE PUBLIC SERVICES OFFICE.
OH, I SEE.
THE TREATS AND CRAFTS ONE CAN MAKE AT PUBLIC FACILITIES ...


BUT THE GIRLS IN GENERAL AFFAIRS FAWN OVER M..... AHEM. NEVER MIND THAT.
GOOD GRIEF ...
TAP
CHIEF, I CAN FIND MY WAY TO GENERAL AFFAIRS MYSELF.
I GO DOWN THERE REGULARLY.
TAP



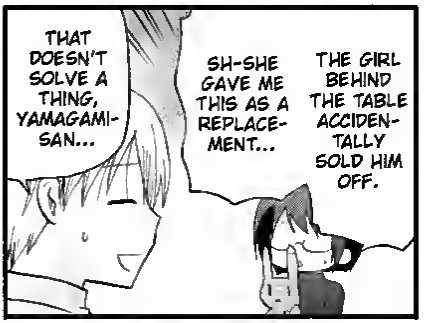


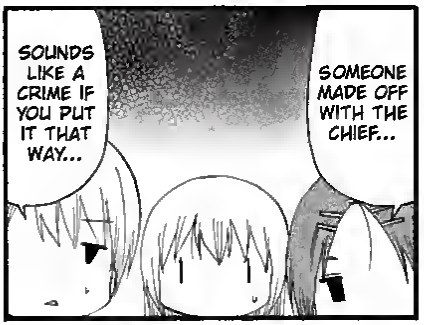
WORK:43

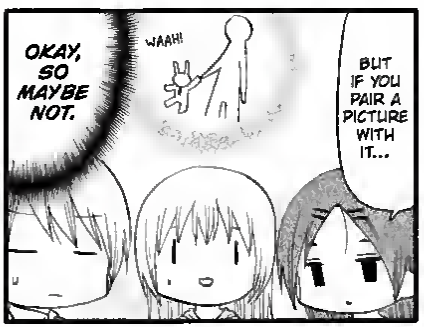


SERVANT X SERVICE

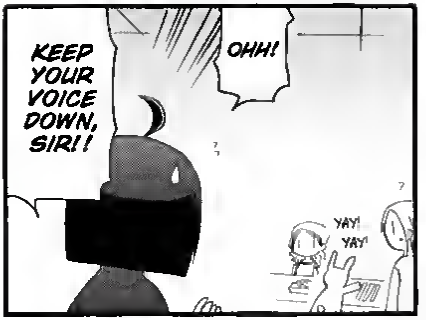
ABDUCTION

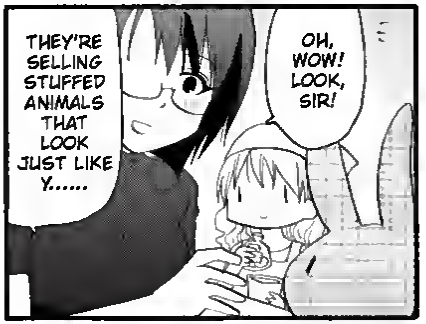

THAT DOESN'T SOLVE A THING, YAMAGAMI-SAN...
SH-SHE GAVE ME THIS AS A REPLACE-MENT...
THE GIRL BEHIND THE TABLE ACCIDEN-TALLY SOLD HIM OFF.

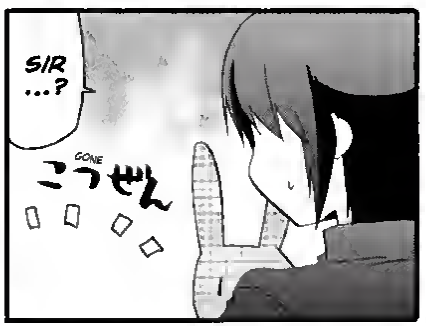




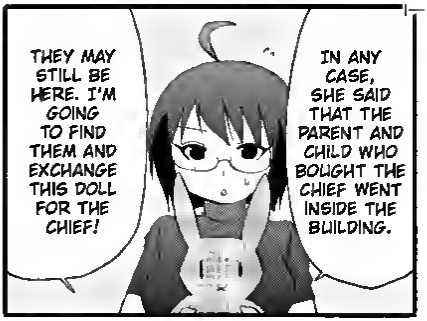
FLEA MARKET CHARMS

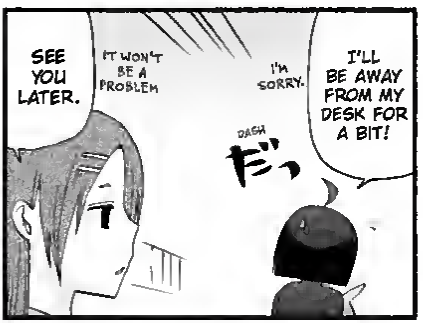


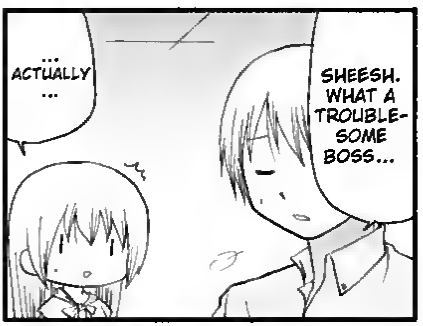


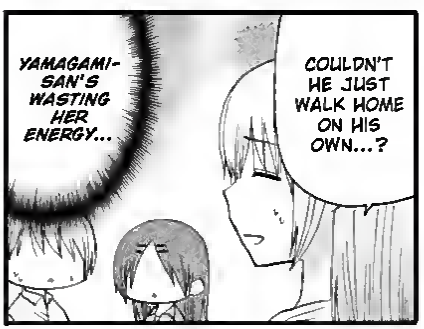


THE SEARCH BEGINS

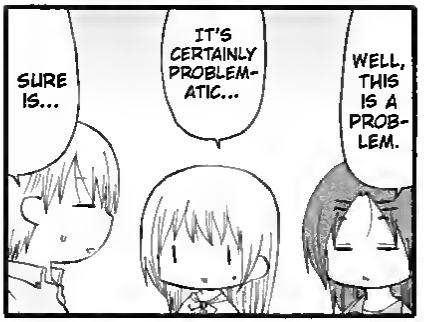

THEY MAY STILL BE HERE. I'M GOING TO FIND THEM AND EXCHANGE THIS DOLL FOR THE CHIEF!
IN ANY CASE, SHE SAID THAT THE PARENT AND CHILD WHO BOUGHT THE CHIEF WENT INSIDE THE BUILDING.

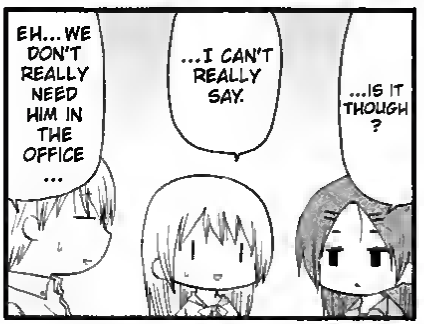


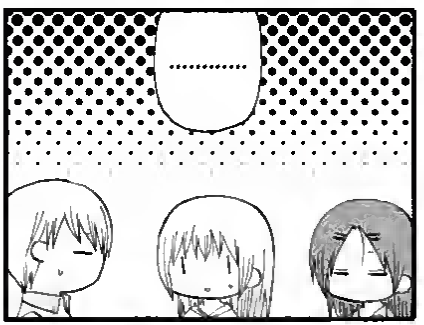




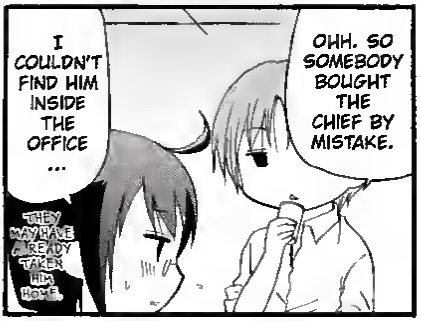
INDISPENSABLE CHIEF

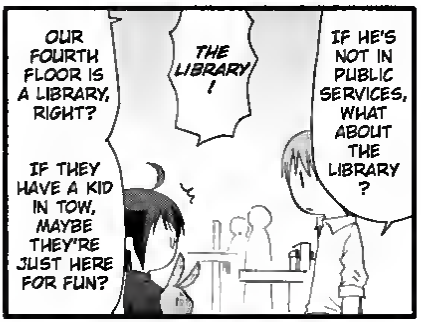






WORRISOME

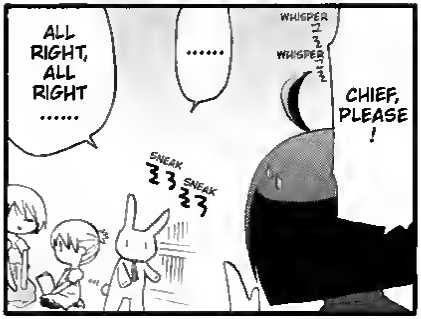


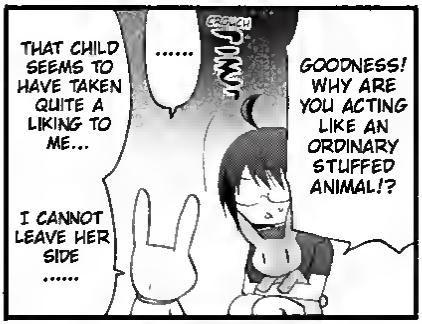

OUR FOURTH FLOOR IS A LIBRARY, RIGHT?
IF THEY HAVE A KID IN TOW, MAYBE THEY'RE JUST HERE FOR FUN?
THE LIBRARY!
IF HE'S NOT IN PUBLIC SERVICES, WHAT ABOUT THE LIBRARY?

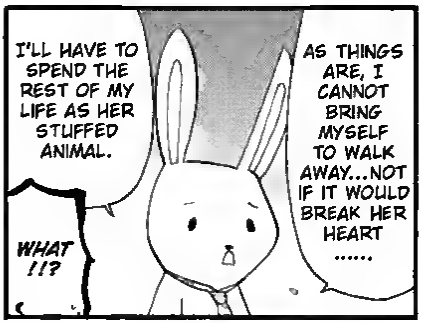
WELL, SHUCKS

...THAT I ACCIDENTALLY SPOKE TO AN ORDINARY STUFFED ANIMAL!!
I'M SO USED TO THE CHIEF...
N-NO ONE SAW THAT, RIGHT ...?
GLANCE きょろ
GLANCE きょろ

IS THIS GOOD-BYE?

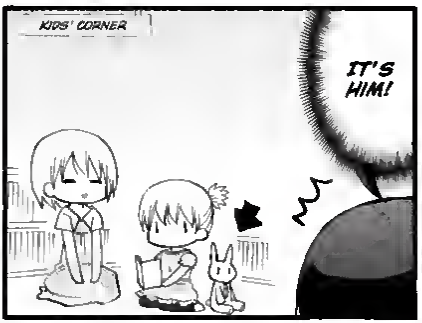


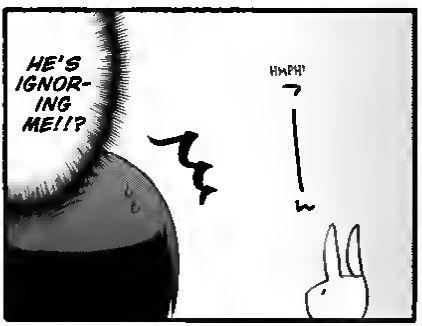

THAT CHILD SEEMS TO HAVE TAKEN QUITE A LIKING TO ME...
I CANNOT LEAVE HER SIDE .....
.....
CROUCH
GOODNESS! WHY ARE YOU ACTING LIKE AN ORDINARY STUFFED ANIMAL!?


I'LL HAVE TO SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE AS HER STUFFED ANIMAL.
WHAT!!?
AS THINGS ARE, I CANNOT BRING MYSELF TO WALK AWAY...NOT IF IT WOULD BREAK HER HEART .....

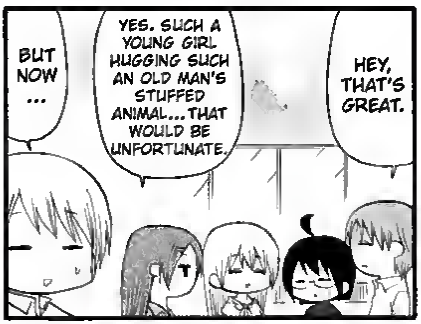
THAT MAKES IT SOUND LIKE YOU'VE GONE OFF WITH ANOTHER WOMAN!!
NO!!
TELL MY WIFE AND DAUGHTER THAT MY BODY NOW BELONGS TO ANOTHER...

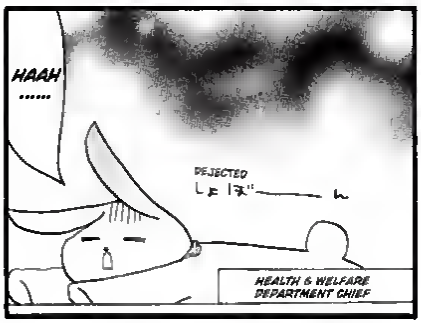
FOUND!!

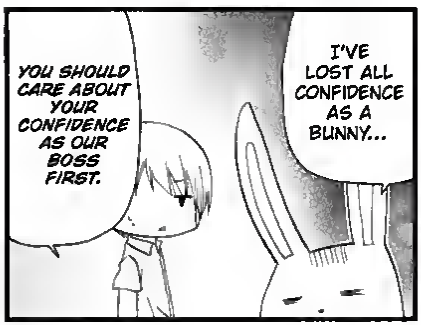




IMPORTANT CONFIDENCE







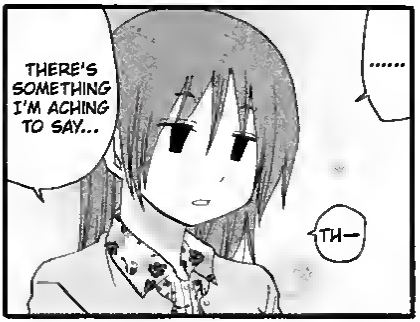
BUNNY'S CHARMS

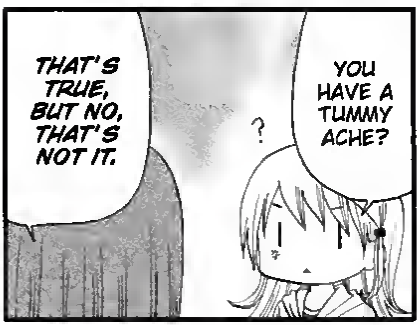
I HATE TO BOTHER YOU, BUT WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO EXCHANGE IT FOR THIS ONE?
ACTUALLY, THIS RABBIT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE FOR SALE...

SERVANT X SERVICE
HELLO ...
CHIHAYA!
DING-DONG
HUH.
I HAPPENED TO BE IN THE AREA, SO I THOUGHT I'D DROP BY.
WHAT'S UP?
WELL, COME ON IN, I GUESS.
OH!
KACHIK
JUST A SEC!
I'LL TELL HER I'M DATING HER BROTHER.
PERFECT.
TODAY'S THE DAY I COME CLEAN TO TOUKO-SAN.
CLENCH
ONII-MY BROTHER ...ISN'T HOME RIGHT NOW.
HE WENT TO THE BOOK-STORE.
OH, OKAY...
.....

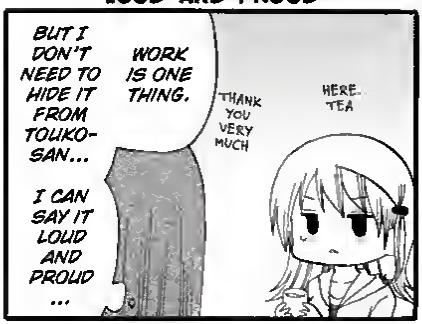
WORK:44

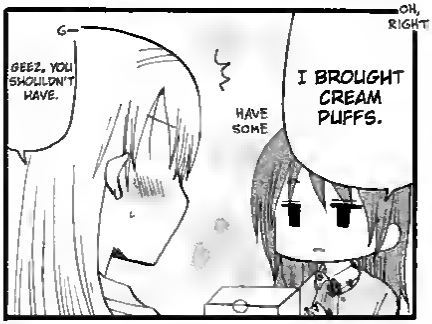
ACHING TO SAY

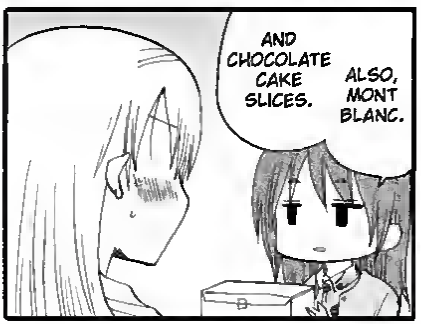


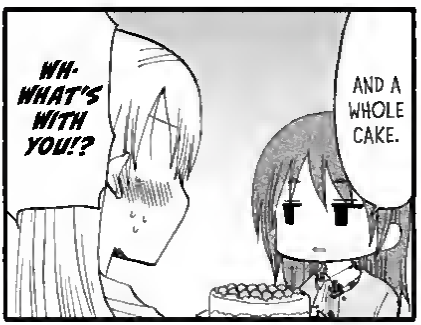


LOUD AND PROUD

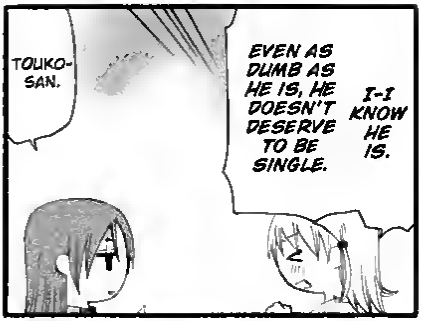






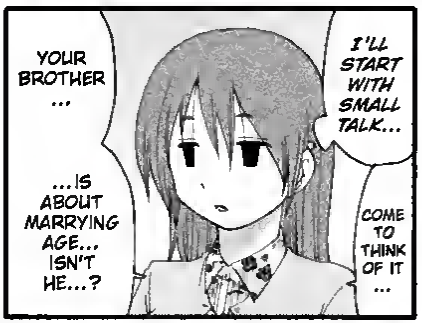


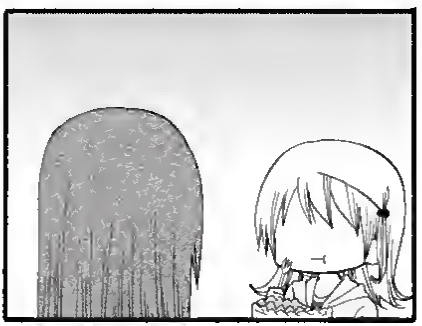
TOUKO'S DILEMMA

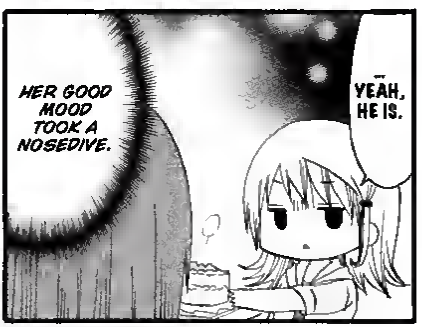


WHY AM I MEDIATING THEIR RELATION-SHIP.....?
YOUR BROTHER CARES ABOUT YOU MORE THAN ANYONE.
THAT COULDN'T BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH.
R-REALLY?
THERE, THERE.

INITIAL PROBING



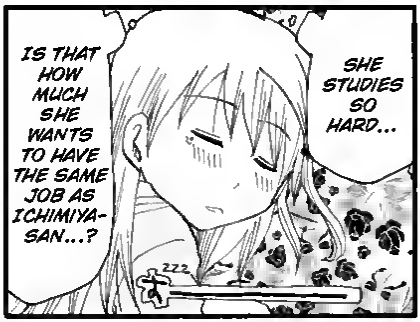


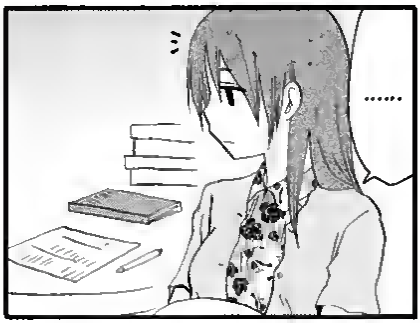


TOUKO'S SENDING SIGNALS...
TOUKO-SAN...
.....
.....SORRY. WHAT WAS IT YOU SAID?
DO YOU ALREADY KNOW? ARE YOU JUST PRE-TENDING NOT TO NOTICE?
CAN I ASK...
TOU...
.....
SHE'S ASLEEP.
ZZZ
OUT WITH HIM
TODAY'S THE DAY I COME CLEAN.
NO! I CAN'T JUST LET IT DROP.
LISTEN... TOUKO-SAN.
I...
ICHI-MIYA-SAN...
...HAS BEEN TAKING ME OUT...
.....MY BROTHER...
...TAKES YOU OUT.
I WOULDA THOUGHT THAT IF YOU WENT HEAD TO HEAD, YOU'D BE THE ONE COMING OUT ON TOP, CHIHAYA.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.

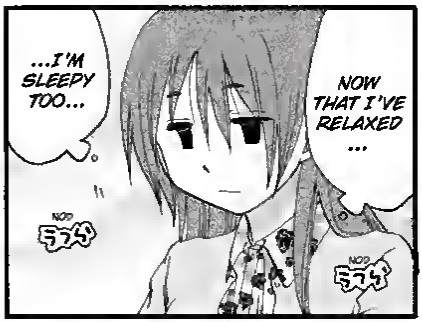
WHY IS THIS HERE? ①

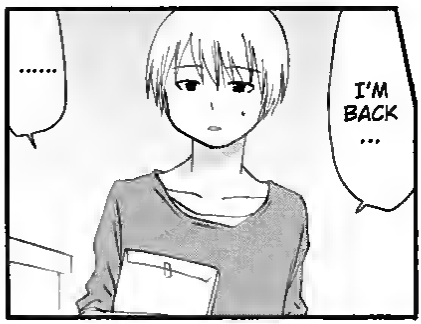
I THOUGHT SHE WAS ACTING STRANGE...
WAS SHE UP ALL NIGHT STUDYING?
SIGH
AND THEN AFTER FILLING UP ON CAKE, SHE FELL RIGHT ASLEEP...
PLOP

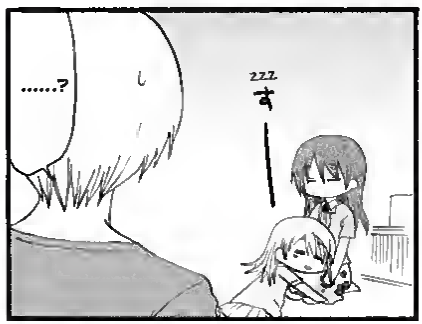


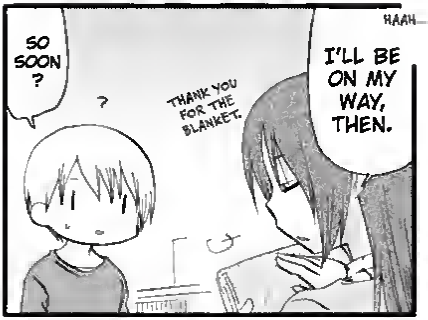


WHY IS THIS HERE? ②



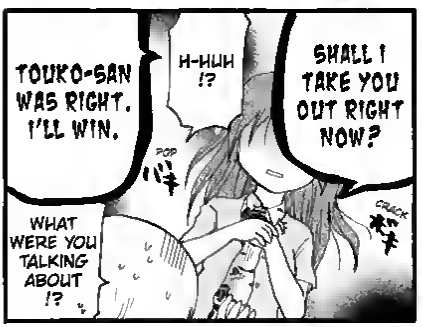





HAAH...
SO SOON ?
?
THANK YOU FOR THE BLANKET.
I'LL BE ON MY WAY, THEN.

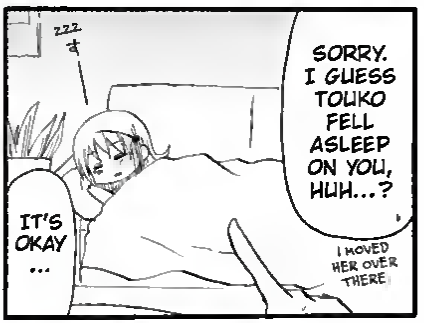
I CAN TELL YOU AND TOUKO ARE REALLY CLOSE, MEGUMI.
YOU KNOW ...
OBLIVIOUS

TWITCH


TOUKO-SAN WAS RIGHT. I'LL WIN.
WHAT WERE YOU TALKING ABOUT !?
H-HUH !?
POP
SHALL I TAKE YOU OUT RIGHT NOW?
CRUCK

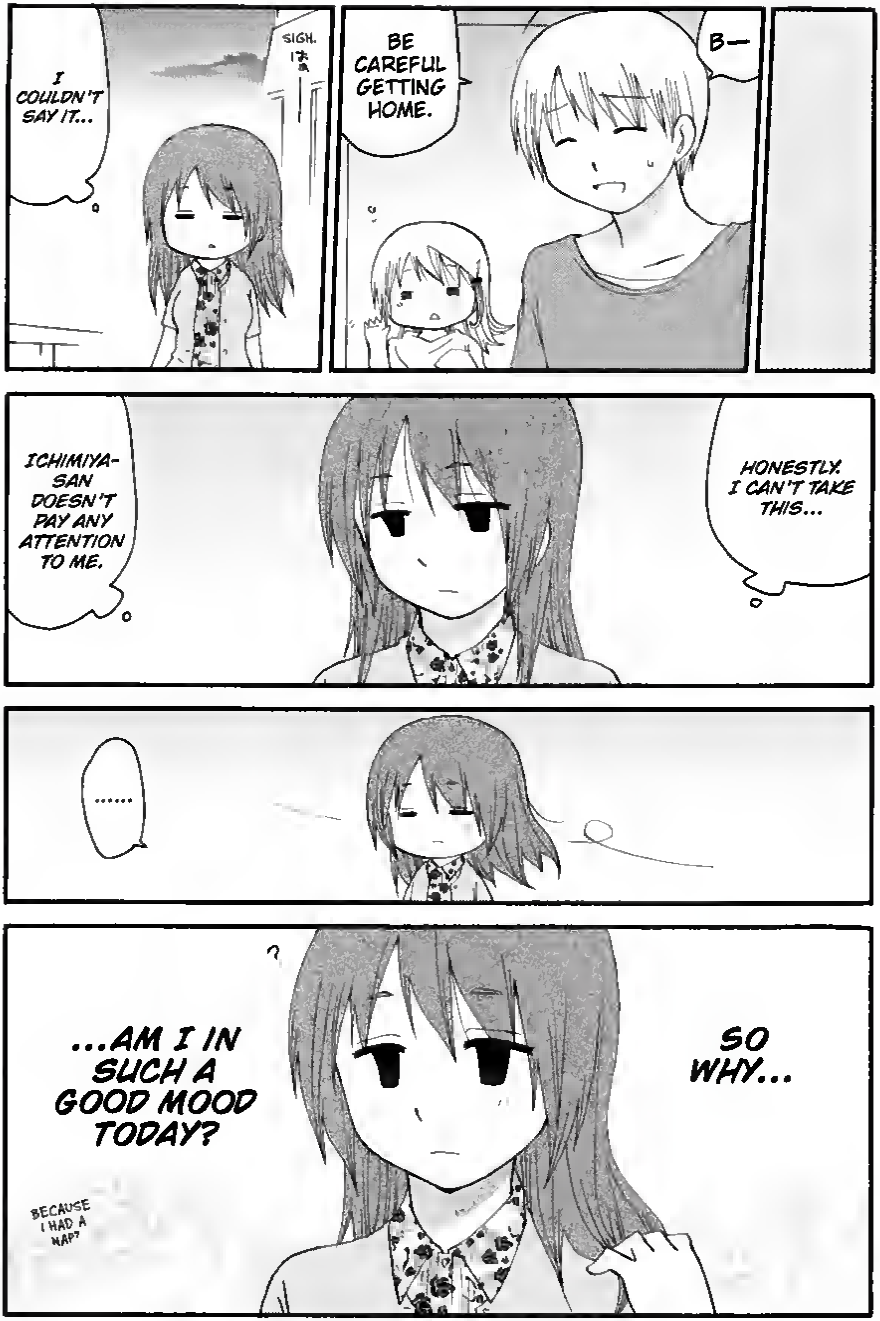
AH!
は、

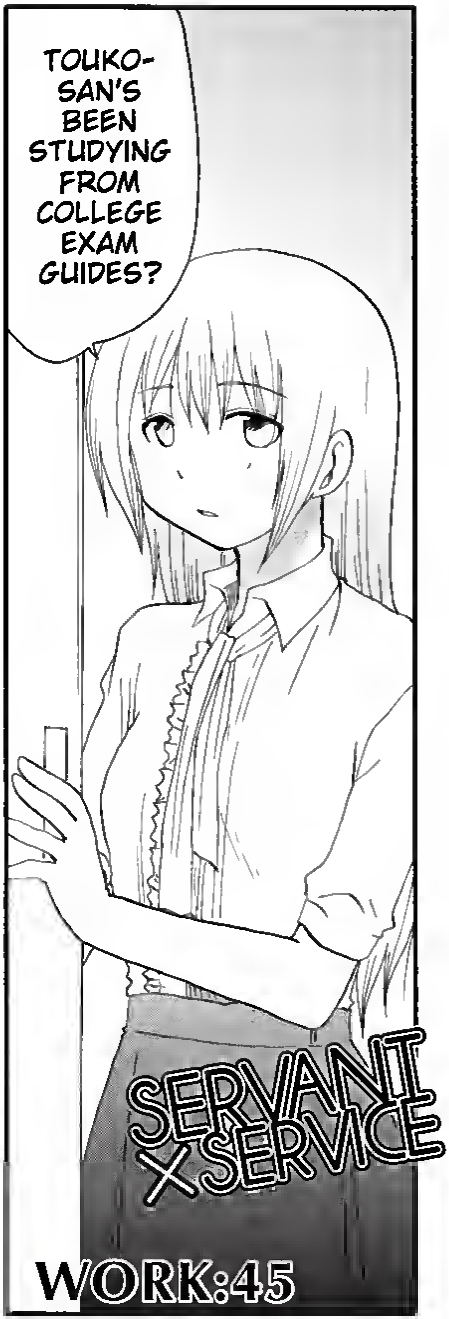
H-HEY THERE... YOU'RE UP.
.....
HELLO ...

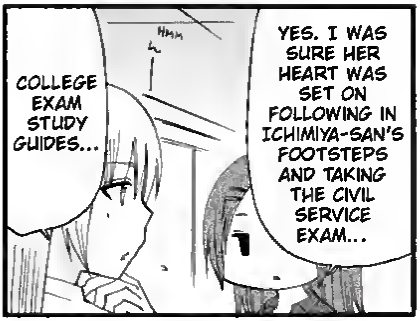

SORRY. I GUESS TOUKO FELL ASLEEP ON YOU, HUH...?
I MOVED HER OVER THERE
ZZZ
IT'S OKAY ...

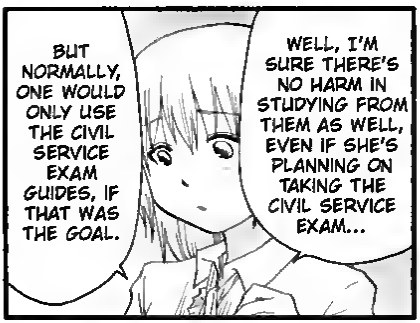
SO... WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE TODAY?
TODAY'S THE DAY I...AH... FORGET IT.....

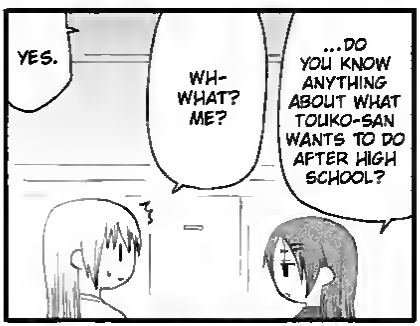
WHY IS SHE NAPPING HERE?
zzz
zzz
.....
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME? SHE'S SLEEPING!
ACK!
BOUNDARIES, MAN!
THAT'S CUTE
YEAH
zzz

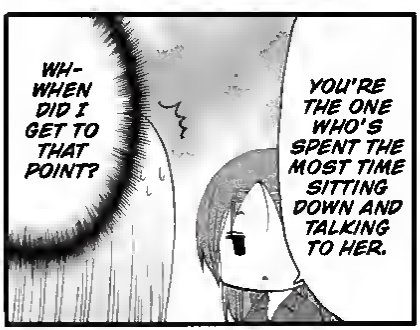

I COULDN'T SAY IT...
SIGH.
BE CAREFUL GETTING HOME.
B—
ICHIMIYA-SAN DOESN'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO ME.
HONESTLY. I CAN'T TAKE THIS...
.....
...AM I IN SUCH A GOOD MOOD TODAY?
BECAUSE I HAD A NAP?
SO WHY...


TOUKO-SAN'S BEEN STUDYING FROM COLLEGE EXAM GUIDES?
SERVANT × SERVICE
WORK:45

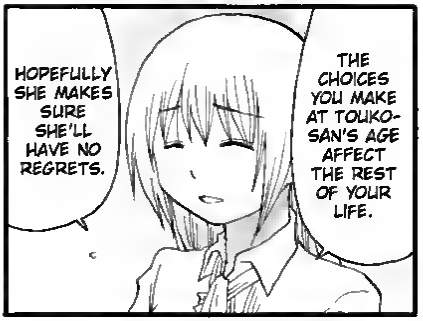

HMM
COLLEGE EXAM STUDY GUIDES...
YES. I WAS SURE HER HEART WAS SET ON FOLLOWING IN ICHIMIYA-SAN'S FOOTSTEPS AND TAKING THE CIVIL SERVICE EXAM...

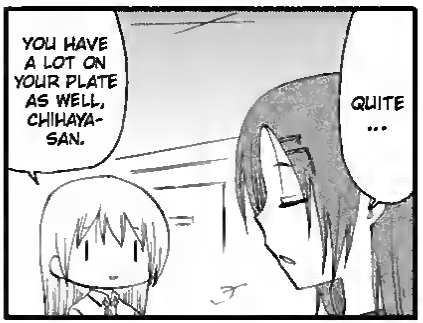

BUT NORMALLY, ONE WOULD ONLY USE THE CIVIL SERVICE EXAM GUIDES, IF THAT WAS THE GOAL.
WELL, I'M SURE THERE'S NO HARM IN STUDYING FROM THEM AS WELL, EVEN IF SHE'S PLANNING ON TAKING THE CIVIL SERVICE EXAM...

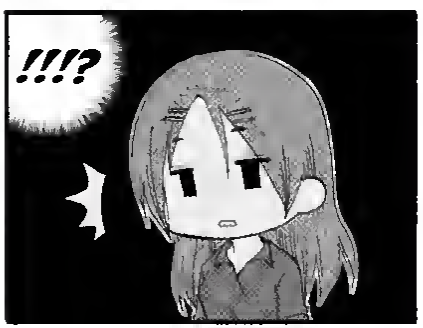

YES.
WH-WHAT? ME?
...DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT WHAT TOUKO-SAN WANTS TO DO AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?


WH-WHEN DID I GET TO THAT POINT?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S SPENT THE MOST TIME SITTING DOWN AND TALKING TO HER.

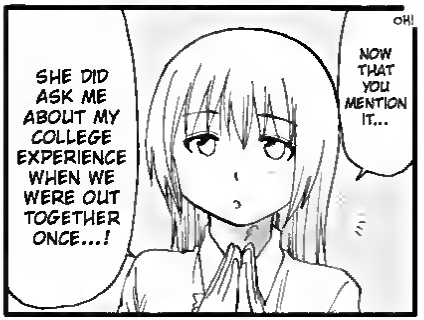
UNEXPECTED AMBUSH

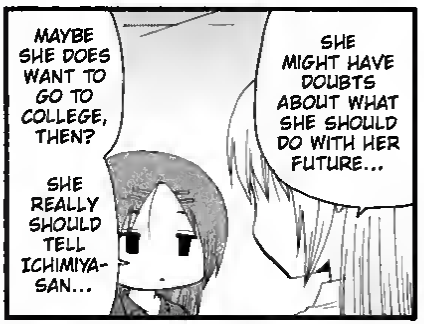


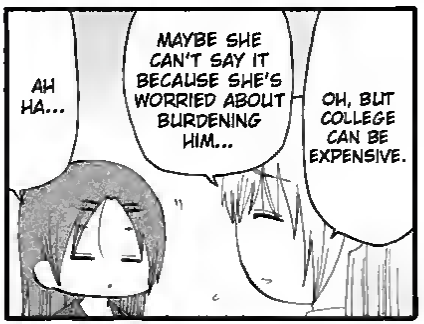


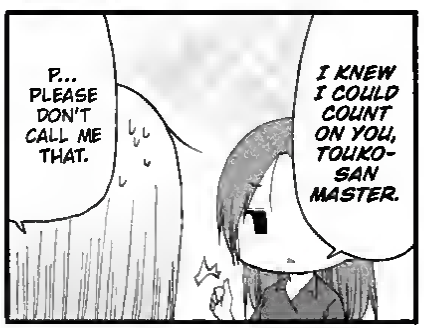


SHE'S A MASTER

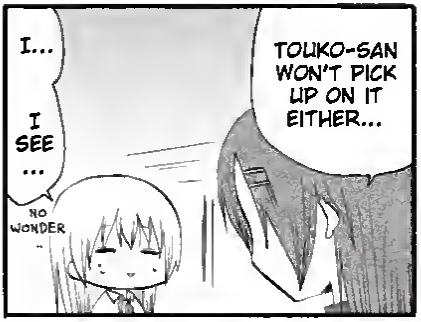


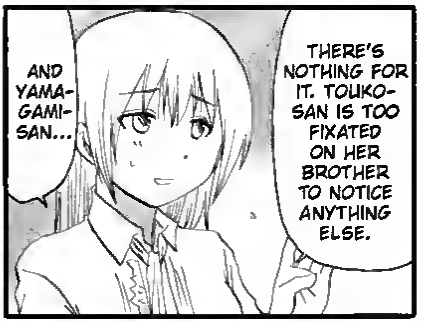

MAYBE SHE DOES WANT TO GO TO COLLEGE, THEN?
SHE REALLY SHOULD TELL ICHIMIYA-SAN...
SHE MIGHT HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT WHAT SHE SHOULD DO WITH HER FUTURE...

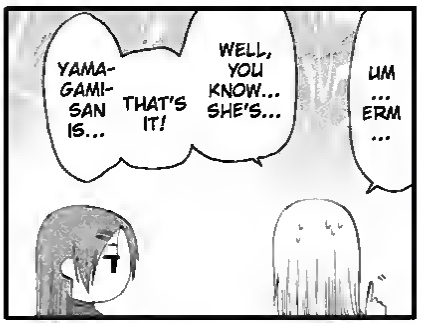


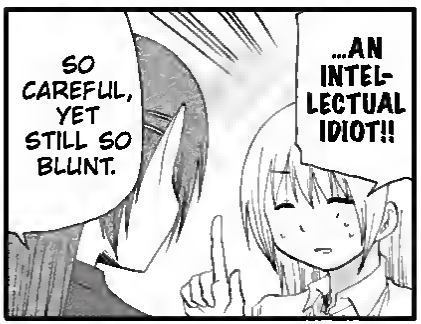


MIYOSHI'S BEST TRY

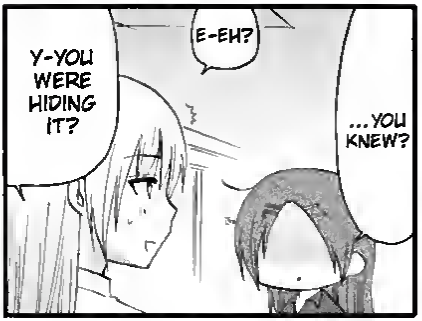


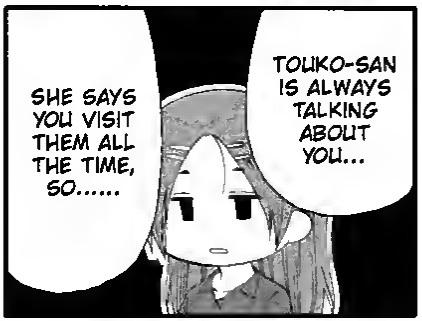


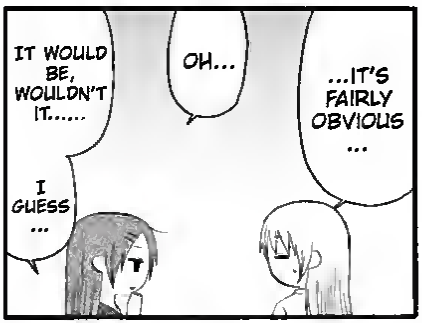


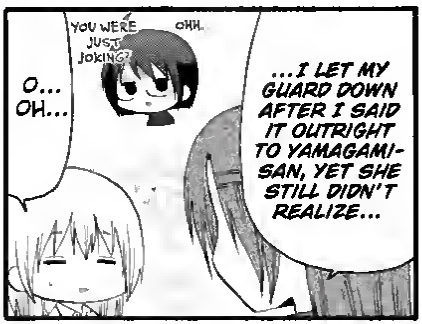


WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT







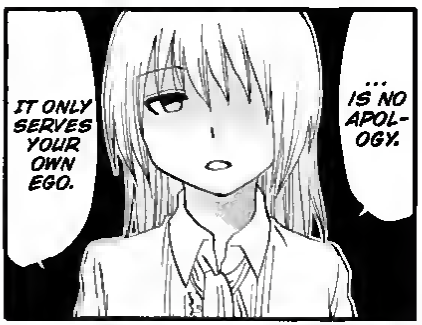


REGRETS ARE BAD
G—
GOOD EVENING.
AH, MIYOSHI-SAN. GOOD EVENING.
BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO TALK TO YOU.
WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?
GOOD-BYE.
BECAUSE I HAVE THIS FEELING I'D REGRET IT!
WHY NOT?
YES, SO WOULD YOU PLEASE LET ME GO!!?
YOU WOULD REGRET IT? THAT WON'T DO AT ALL!
DON'T HAVE REGRETS
...BUT I ALSO WORRY ABOUT YOU.
UMM... I DO WORRY ABOUT TOUKO-SAN...
I WAS TOO HARSH AGAIN.
...THANKS.
I DON'T WANT YOU TO PUT ICHIMIYA'S NEEDS BEFORE YOUR OWN SO OFTEN THAT YOU END UP WITH REGRETS...
AM I IN ANY POSITION TO SAY THAT TO OTHERS WHEN I REGRET LEAVING SCHOOL MYSELF?
SIGH
"LIVE WITH NO RE-GRETS."
EEP!
JOLT

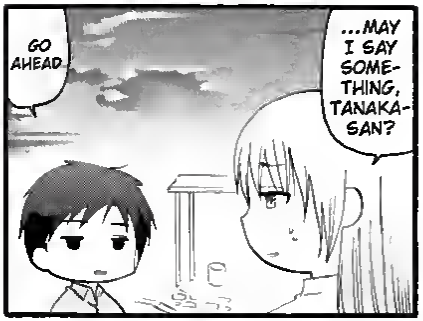
TO REGRET HEARING
TO REGRET SAYING
...BY TAKING YAMAGAMI-SAN OUT TO EAT.
THEN I SHOULD APOLOGIZE FOR THE OTHER DAY ...
..... WHATEVER THE CASE, HASEBE-SAN ISN'T HERE, SO...
I'M HERE TO CHALLENGE HASEBE TO A LITTLE COMPETI-TION.
I JUST HAVEN'T DECIDED WHAT IT WILL BE YET
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ANYWAY?
WHY WOULD YOU ASK HER OUT AGAIN?
...YOUR PLAN TO DRAG HER OUT TO EAT FLOPPED, REMEMBER?
THERE'S A NEW VIDEO GAME COMING OUT TODAY!
...HE SAID, AND THEN HE LEFT.
HASE-BE-SAN?
HOW-EVER ...
I DID END UP REGRETTING THAT, YES.
I UNDER-STAND NOW.
YES, SO YOU CAN LEAVE NOW.
SO I MISSED HIM...
.....
I FEEL THAT, SHOULD I FAIL TO APOLOGIZE, I WOULD HAVE YET ANOTHER REGRET!!!!
.....
OUR NEXT COMPETITION SHOULD BE OVER VIDEO GAMES.

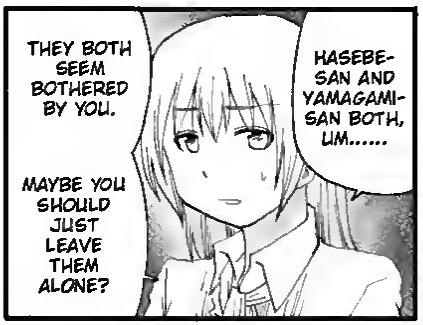
WORDS OF SYMPATHY

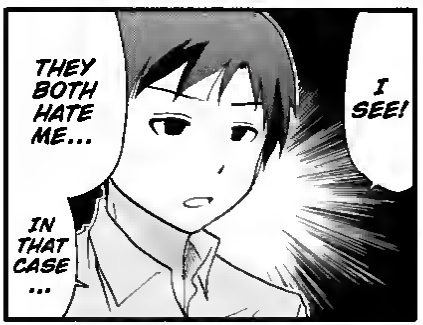
I ALSO UNDERSTAND WHERE YOU'RE COMING FROM, NOT WANTING TO HAVE ANY REGRETS.
TANAKA-SAN... HASEBE-SAN'S SISTER FILLED ME IN ON YOUR SITUATION.



IF THEY HATE YOU...

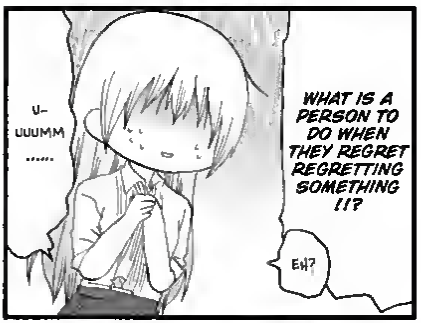


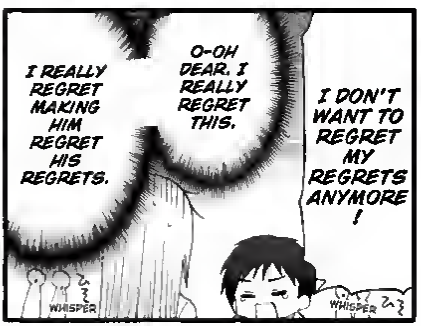


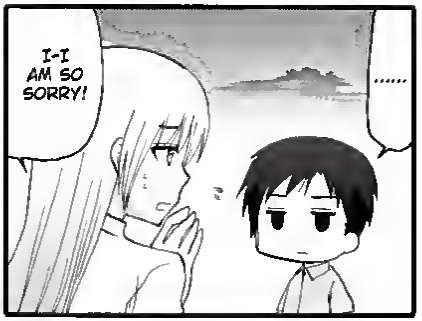


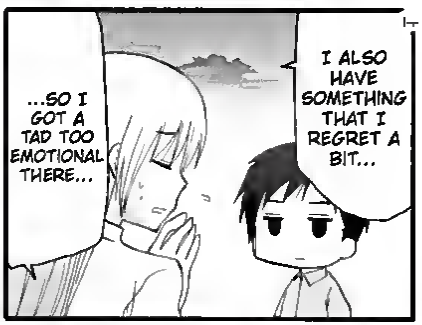
PLEASE, DRY YOUR EYES!!
T—
TANA-KA-SA—
WE'RE IN PUBLIC.
DROP
カサ

Y-YES !!?
FLINCH
ぎゅっ
MIYO-SHI-SAN !!


U-UUMM .....
WHAT IS A PERSON TO DO WHEN THEY REGRET REGRETTING SOMETHING !!?
EH?


I REALLY REGRET MAKING HIM REGRET HIS REGRETS.
O-OH DEAR. I REALLY REGRET THIS.
I DON'T WANT TO REGRET MY REGRETS ANYMORE !
WHISPER
WHISPER


I-I AM SO SORRY!
.....

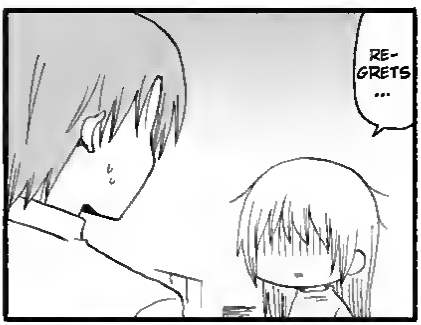

...SO I GOT A TAD TOO EMOTIONAL THERE...
I ALSO HAVE SOMETHING THAT I REGRET A BIT...

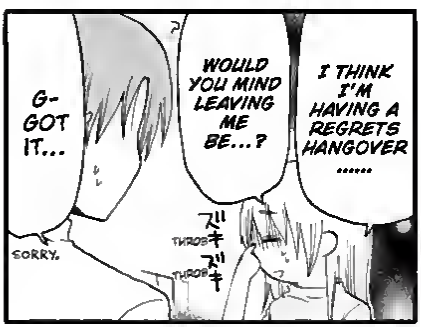
NO RE-ACTION ...
TANAKA-SAN?
T—
.....
MAYBE I'M NOT GETTING THROUGH TO HIM.

I REGRET MY ACTIONS TERRIBLY !!!!
GUSH
IT GOT THROUGH TO HIM INCREDI-BLY!

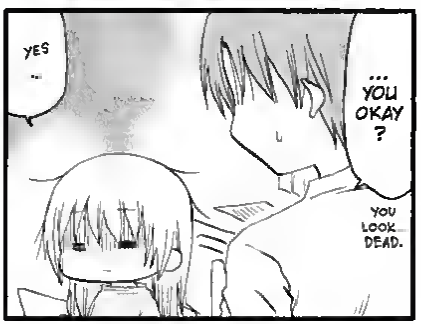
RESULT: REGRETS...

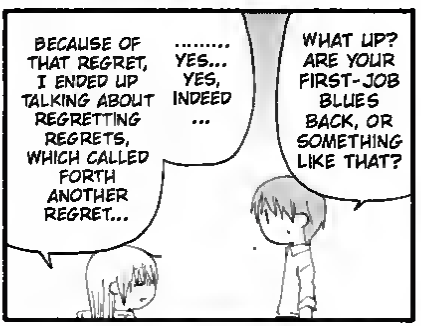
WE DIDN'T REACH ANY CONCLUSIONS ABOUT REGRETS...
SO WE DECIDED TO HAVE ANOTHER CHAT, SO WE WOULDN'T REGRET THAT...
YES. HIM ...
BY TANAKA ...YOU MEAN GEORGE, RIGHT?





REGRETS BEGET REGRETS

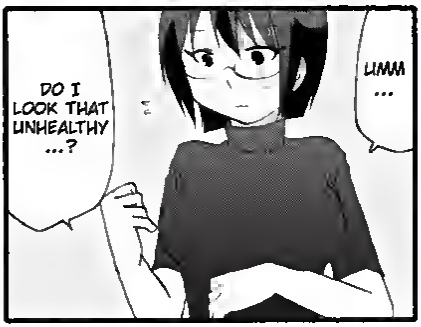


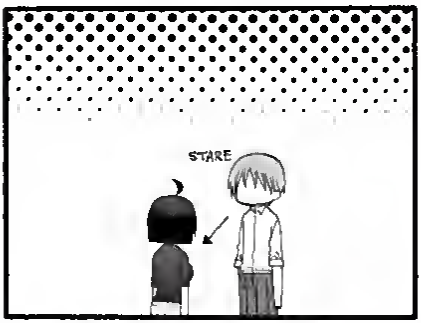

BECAUSE OF THAT REGRET, I ENDED UP TALKING ABOUT REGRETTING REGRETS, WHICH CALLED FORTH ANOTHER REGRET...
..... YES... YES, INDEED ...
WHAT UP? ARE YOUR FIRST-JOB BLUES BACK, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

SERVANT x SERVICE
WORK:46
H-HASEBE-SAN!
BLUSH
...IS HAVING BREAD CRUSTS FOR LUNCH.
THE FIRST GIRL I CAN HONESTLY SAY I'VE FALLEN FOR...
.....
THERE'S BEEN SO MUCH GOING ON SINCE THEN THAT I'VE BARELY SPOKEN TO LUCY.
EHH...
*EMBARRASSING LINE
NOT TOO LONG AGO
OH!
SO I'VE BEEN EATING LUNCH UP ON THE ROOF.
'COURSE, COULD ALSO BE 'COS I'M FEELING TOTES AWKWARD.
KACHK

SHY
WELL...
ER—
ERM...
WHAT ARE YOU GETTING ALL RED ABOUT, THEN?
...OKAY, OKAY.
I FEEL LIKE I HAVEN'T BEEN TALKING TO YOU, SO I...
FIDGET ごにょ
L-LATELY, YOU KNOW...
FIDGET にょ
EXCEPT FOR WORK...
SHE'S FLUSHED...
I WAS HOPING I'D FIND YOU ON THE ROOF...
SHE'S FLUSHED!
GURGLE ぐー
SHAME
DON'T CHOW DOWN ON BREAD CRUSTS IF IT'S GONNA EMBARRASS YOU.
LUCY.
.....
.....
BREAD CRUSTS ARE A LEGITIMATE SOURCE OF CARBO-HYDRATES!!
THEY'RE STILL FOOD!!
D-DON'T MIS-UNDER-STAND!!
BUT!! ON THE OTHER HAND, THIS MEANS THAT I WAS ABLE TO FEED MY WORD ADDICTION!!
I WAS LEFT WITH NO CHOICE BUT TO EAT BREAD CRUSTS!!
YES, AS USUAL, I BOUGHT SO MANY BOOKS THAT MY FOOD BUDGET RAN OUT.
GLINT キリッ
HAVE A LITTLE SHAME!!
I FEEL NO SHAME WHAT-SOEVER ABOUT EATING BREAD CRUSTS!!

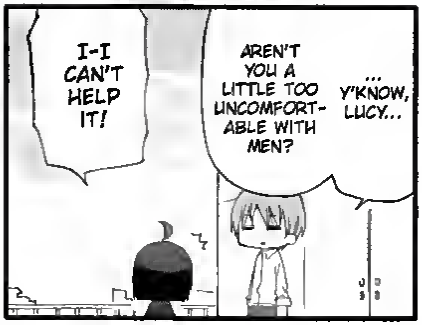
PHYSICAL EFFECTS?

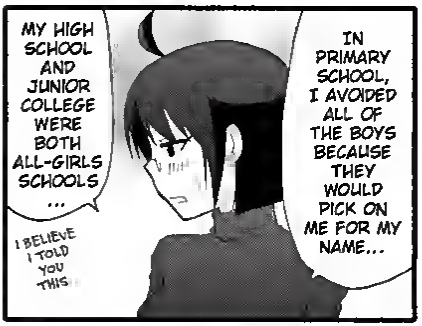


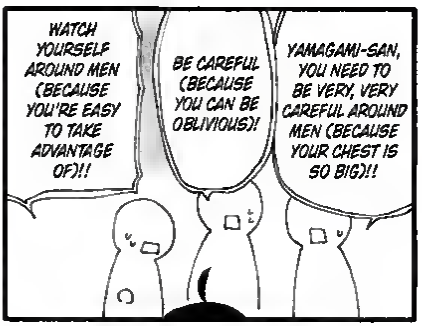


THE BOOK BUG

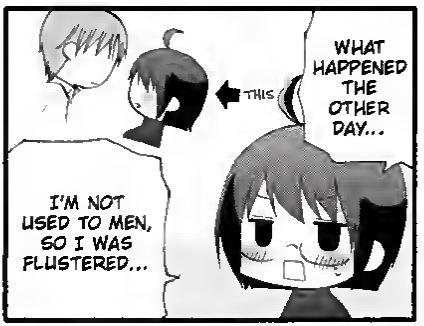
PEER PRESSURE

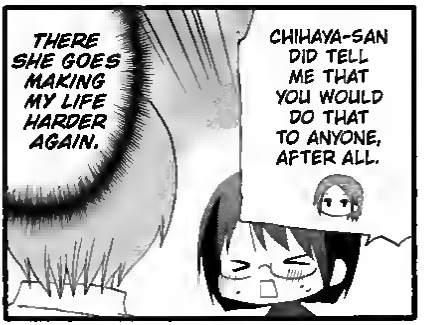



MY HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR COLLEGE WERE BOTH ALL-GIRLS SCHOOLS ...
I BELIEVE I TOLD YOU THIS
IN PRIMARY SCHOOL, I AVOIDED ALL OF THE BOYS BECAUSE THEY WOULD PICK ON ME FOR MY NAME...

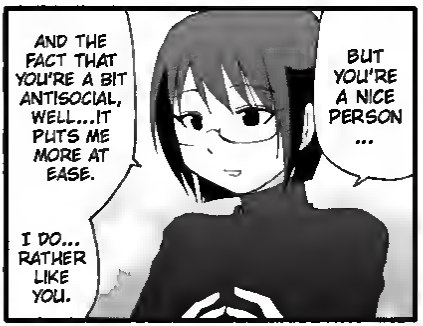

WATCH YOURSELF AROUND MEN (BECAUSE YOU'RE EASY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF)!!
BE CAREFUL (BECAUSE YOU CAN BE OBLIVIOUS)!
YAMAGAMI-SAN, YOU NEED TO BE VERY, VERY CAREFUL AROUND MEN (BECAUSE YOUR CHEST IS SO BIG)!!

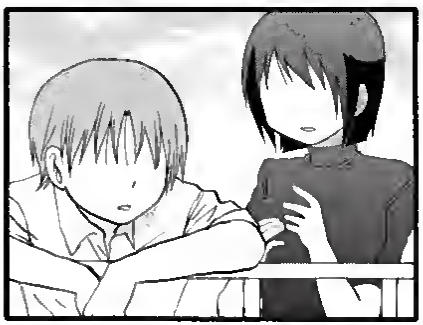
THE OTHER DAY

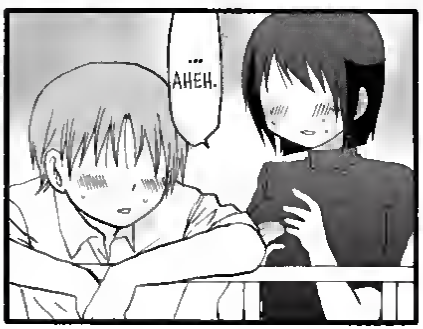




RATHER FORWARD







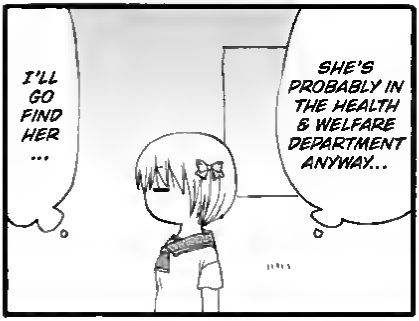
YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW

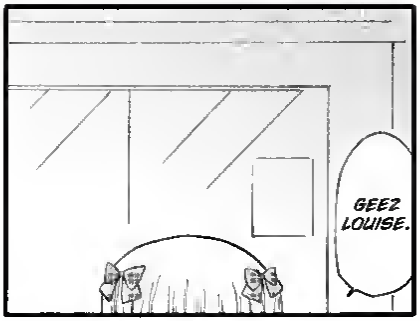
FINALLY, THERE'S THE CATCH

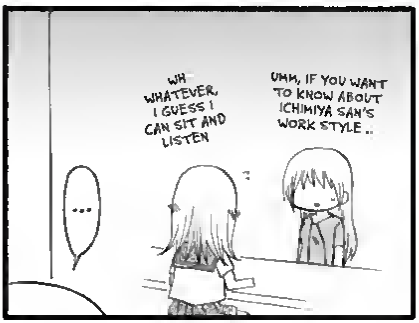
LU—
I'M SORRY! I'M HEADING BACK!
.....
SLAM
ばたん
.....
.....
YOU ACT LIKE THIS TO EVERYONE, I'M SURE!!
I GET THE FEELING THAT MY HALF-ASSED LIFESTYLE HAS COME BACK TO BITE ME IN THE BUTT.....

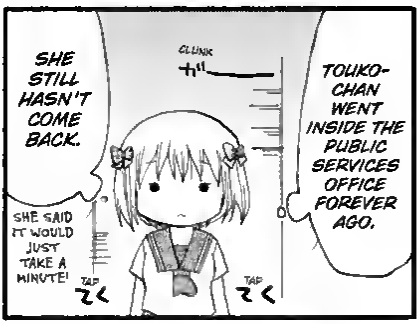
MY GOD...IT'S MUTUAL?

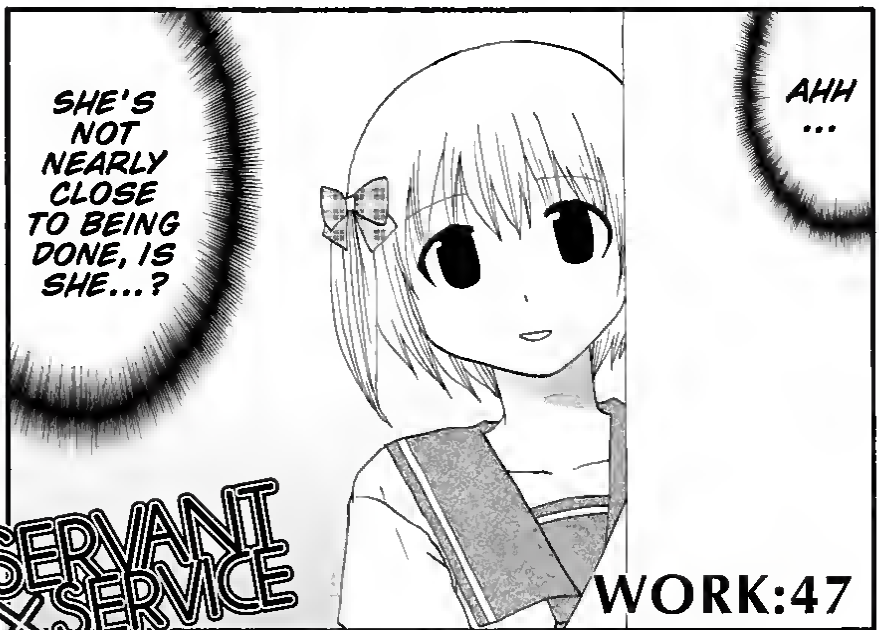
I DIDN'T MEAN TO BLURT OUT SOMETHING SO STRANGE !!
E-E-E-E-EXCUSE ME!!
YOU ACT LIKE THIS TO EVERYONE, I'M SURE !!
YOU'RE NICE TO EVERYONE, AFTER ALL !!
NO, I DON'T!
LUCY, YOU'RE SPECIAL TO—
HUH !!?
WE'RE ALL EQUALS!!
OW!!
UWAAH! THAT WON'T DO! PLEASE BE KIND TO EVERYONE !!!!


I'LL GO FIND HER ...
SHE'S PROBABLY IN THE HEALTH & WELFARE DEPARTMENT ANYWAY...


GEEZ LOUISE.

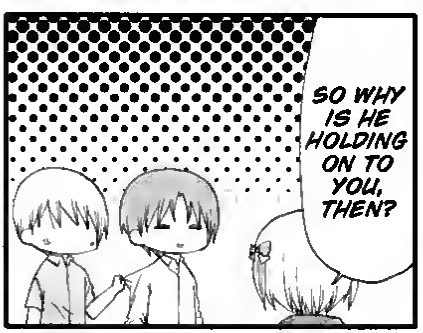

...
WH WHATEVER, I GUESS I CAN SIT AND LISTEN
UMM, IF YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT ICHIMIYA SAN'S WORK STYLE..


SHE STILL HASN'T COME BACK.
SHE SAID IT WOULD JUST TAKE A MINUTE!
TAP
CLUNK
TAP
TOUKO-CHAN WENT INSIDE THE PUBLIC SERVICES OFFICE FOREVER AGO.


SHE'S NOT NEARLY CLOSE TO BEING DONE, IS SHE...?
AHH ...
SERVANT X SERVICE
WORK:47

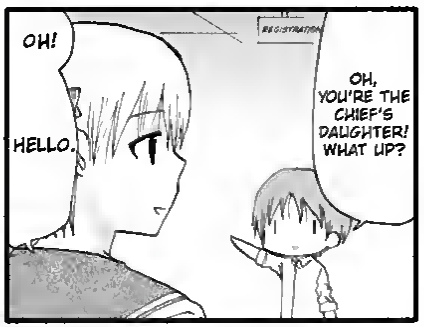
BUSY GUY

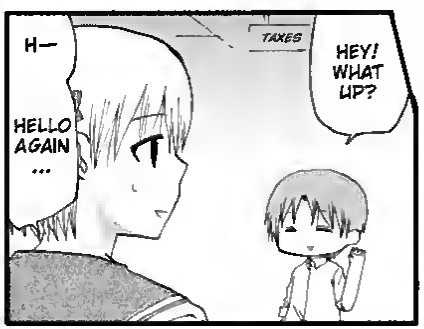
I HAVE WORK OUTSIDE THE OFFICE TOO.
LIKE TO TAKE PAPERWORK DOWN TO GENERAL AFFAIRS.
SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO WALK AROUND A LOT ON THE JOB, RIGHT?

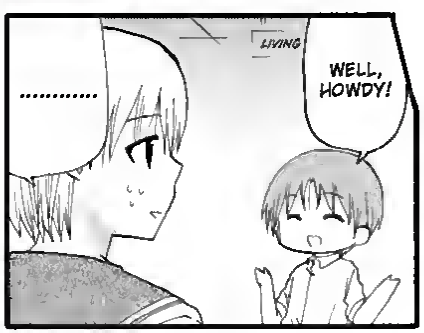


A FAMILIAR FACE

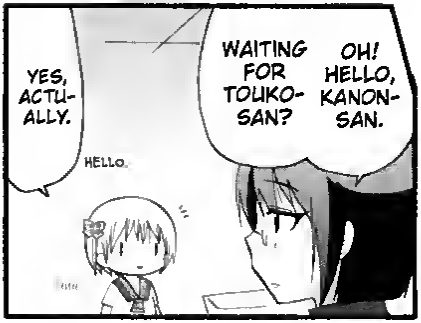
I GUESS I'LL KILL TIME UNTIL SHE'S READY...
THERE'S NOT MUCH TO DO AT THE PUBLIC SERVICES OFFICE THOUGH.
MAYBE I'LL JUST WALK AROUND.

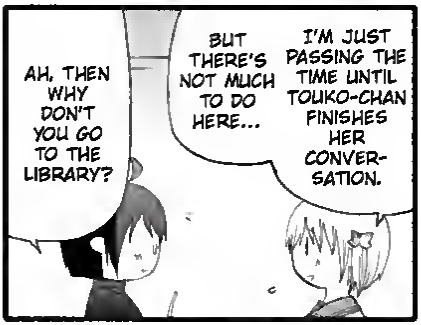




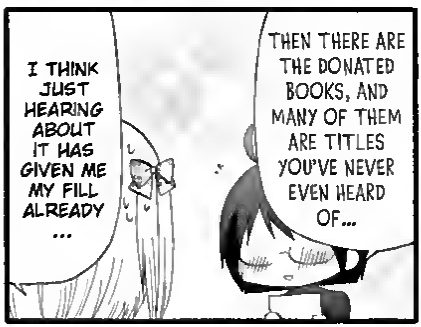


LIBRARY'S CHARMS

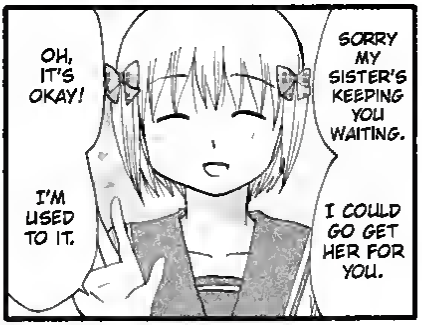


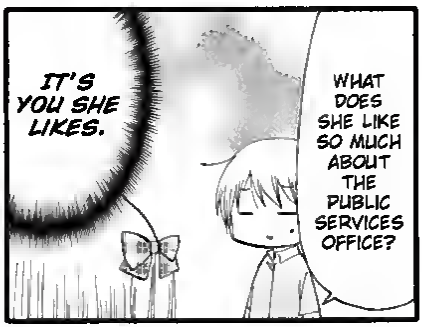

AH, THEN WHY DON'T YOU GO TO THE LIBRARY?
BUT THERE'S NOT MUCH TO DO HERE...
I'M JUST PASSING THE TIME UNTIL TOUKO-CHAN FINISHES HER CONVERSATION.

IN KEEPING WITH A LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICES OFFICE, WE ALSO HAVE A LOT OF LOCAL BOOKS. YOU CAN HAVE YOUR FILL OF GENRES YOU WOULDN'T NORMALLY READ!
WE DON'T HAVE MANY NEW BOOKS, BUT THAT MEANS WE HAVE LOTS OF OLD ONES!

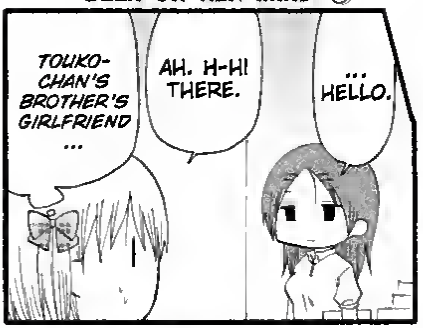

I THINK JUST HEARING ABOUT IT HAS GIVEN ME MY FILL ALREADY ...
THEN THERE ARE THE DONATED BOOKS, AND MANY OF THEM ARE TITLES YOU'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD OF...

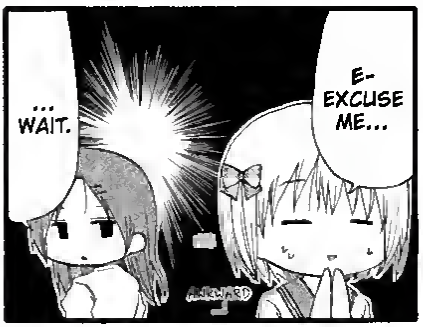
WHAT SHE LIKES

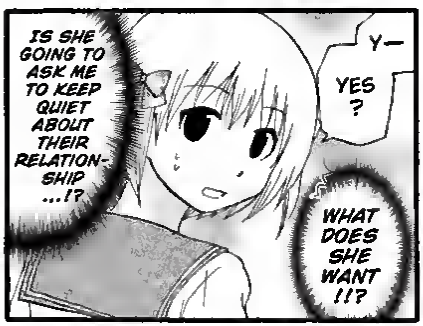


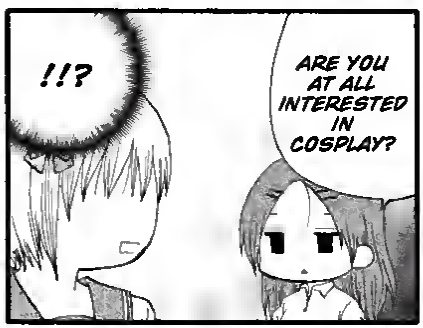


BEEN ON HER MIND ①

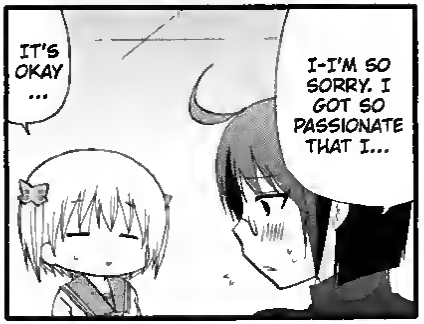


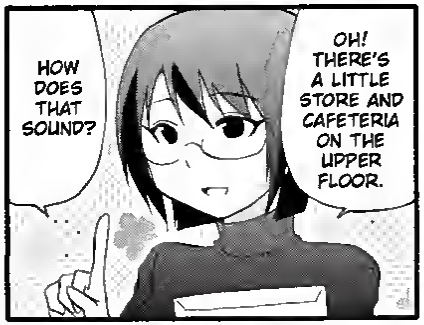






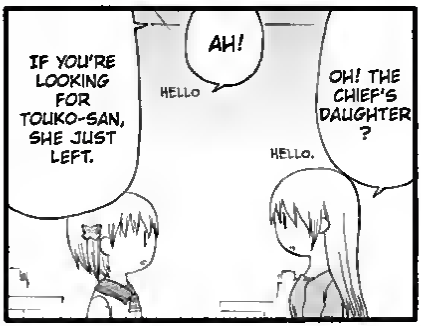
CAFETERIA'S CHARMS

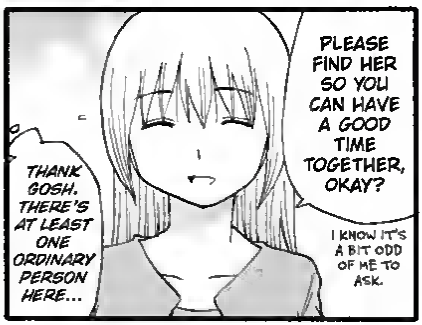


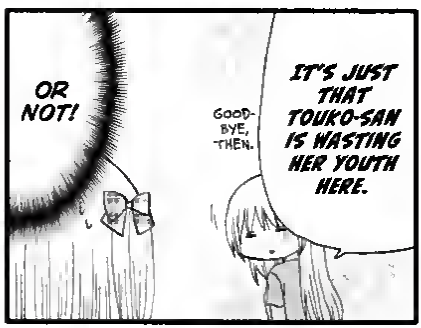


THE PRICES ARE CHEAPER THAN ORDINARY STORES. IT'S QUITE A BARGAIN!
YES, IT'S PERFECTLY FINE.
IS IT OKAY FOR NON-EMPLOYEES TO GO UP THERE?

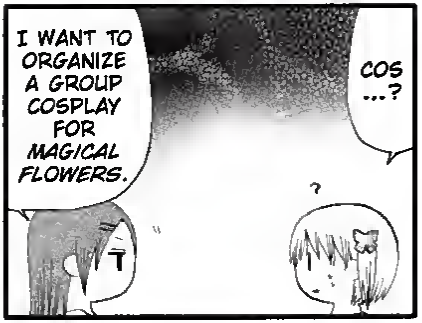
ONE LAST TRY

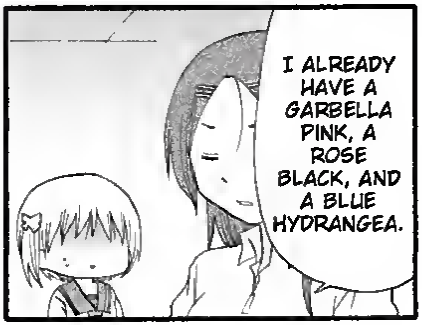


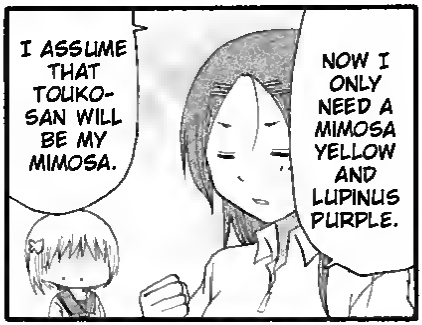

THANK GOSH. THERE'S AT LEAST ONE ORDINARY PERSON HERE...
PLEASE FIND HER SO YOU CAN HAVE A GOOD TIME TOGETHER, OKAY?
I KNOW IT'S A BIT ODD OF ME TO ASK.

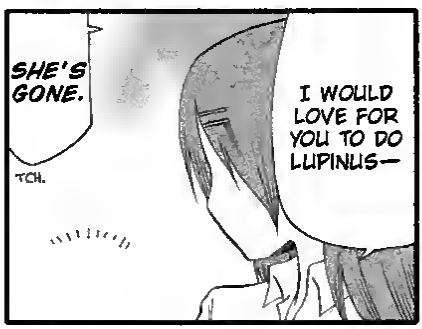


BEEN ON HER MIND ②

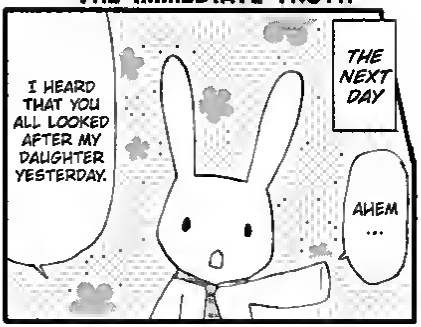


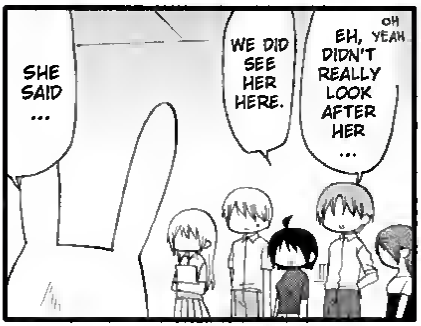


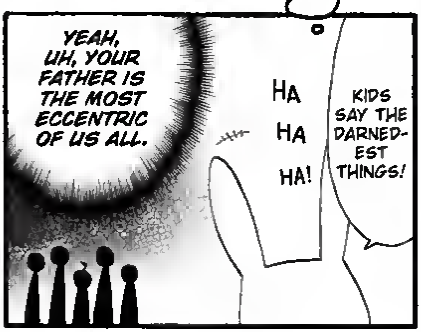




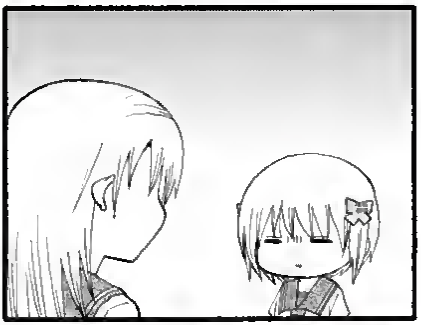
THE IMMEDIATE TRUTH

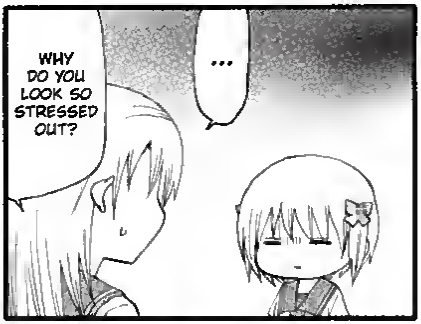


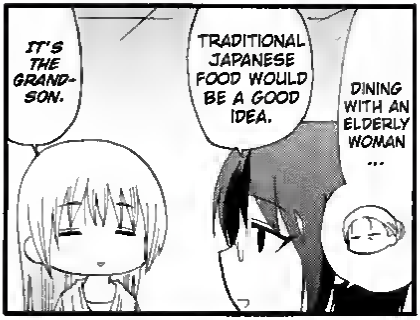




PILED UP SOMETHING

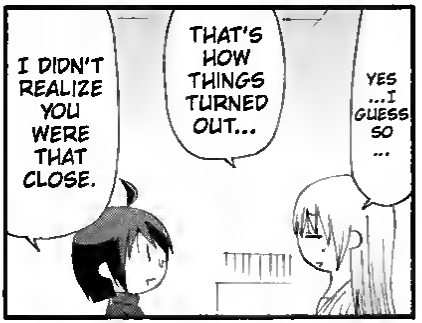


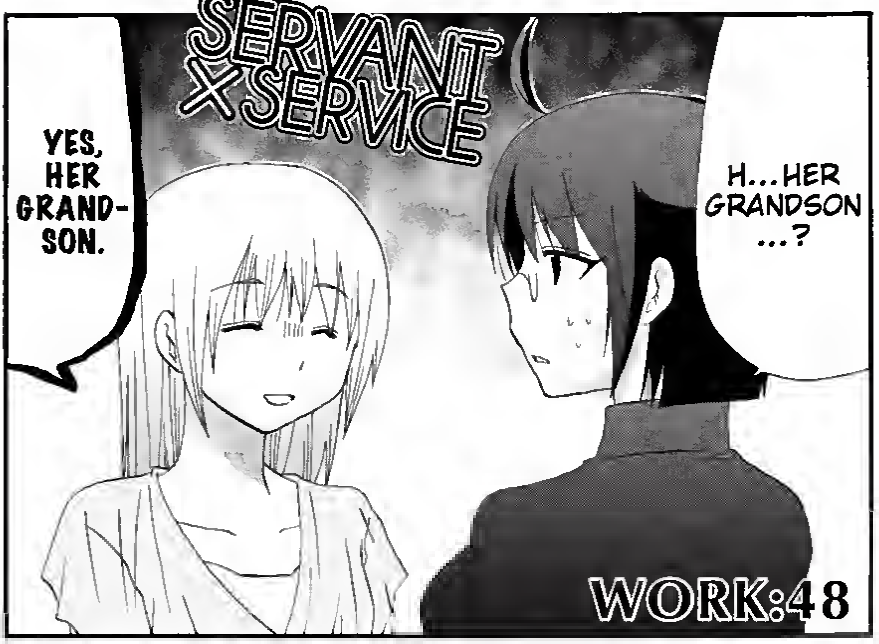



IT'S THE GRAND-SON.
TRADITIONAL JAPANESE FOOD WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA.
DINING WITH AN ELDERLY WOMAN ...

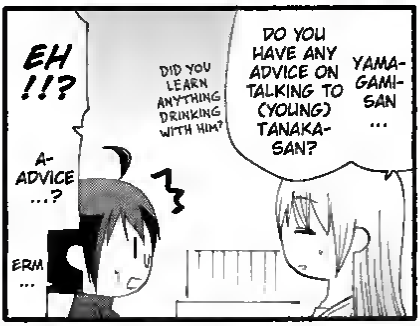
YOU'RE GOING OUT TO EAT WITH TANAKA-SAN TODAY?
OH, REALLY ?

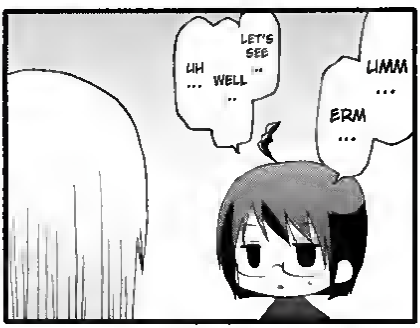
HER GRAND-SON.
COME AGAIN?

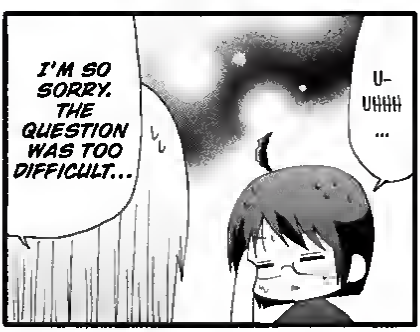

I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU WERE THAT CLOSE.
THAT'S HOW THINGS TURNED OUT...
YES ...I GUESS SO ...


SERVANT x SERVICE
YES, HER GRAND-SON.
H...HER GRANDSON ...?
WORK:48

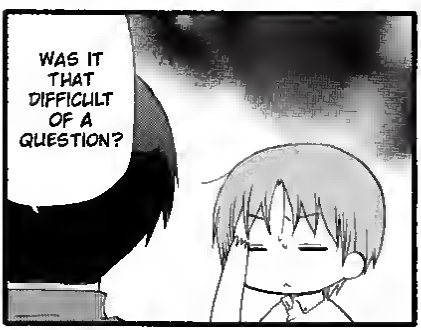
A DIFFICULT QUESTION ①


YAMA-GAMI-SAN ...
DO YOU HAVE ANY ADVICE ON TALKING TO (YOUNG) TANAKA-SAN?
DID YOU LEARN ANYTHING DRINKING WITH HIM?
EH!!?
A-ADVICE ...?
ERM ...

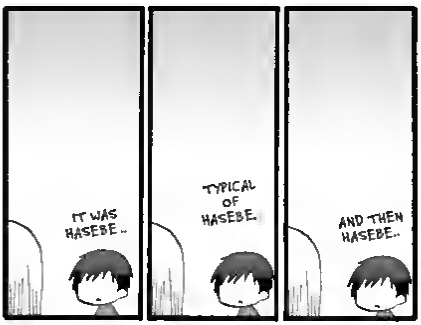




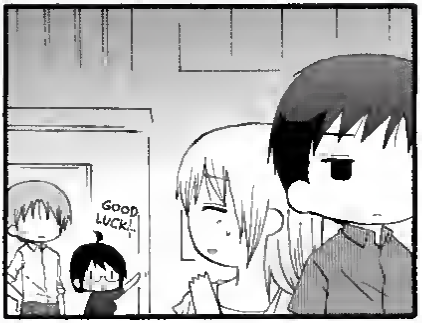
A DIFFICULT QUESTION ②

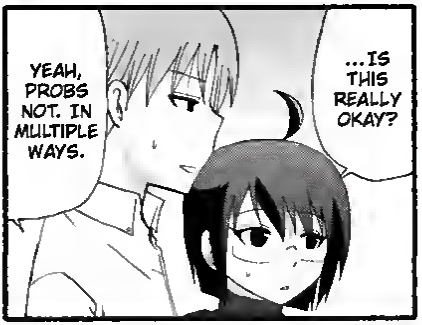


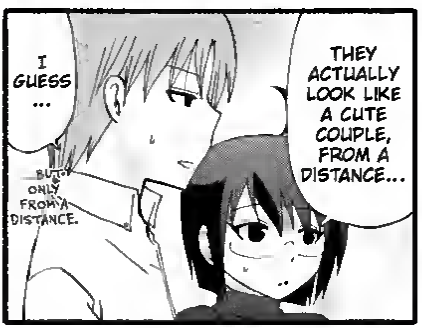
TANAKA'S STOCK

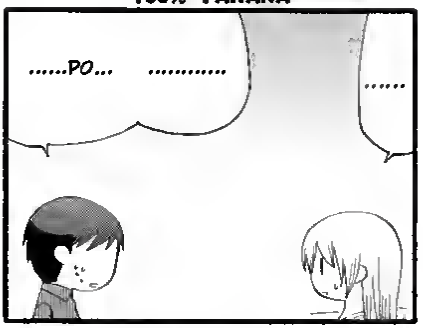


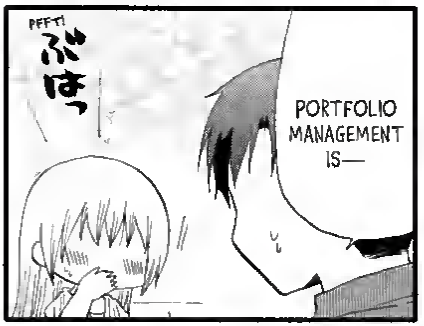
FROM BEHIND

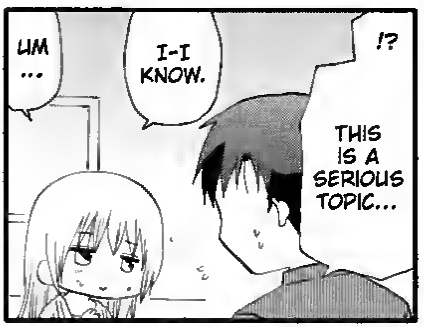







.....PO...
.....
.....

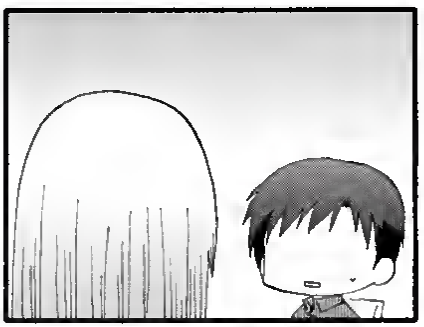

PFF-T!
ぶはっ
PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT IS—

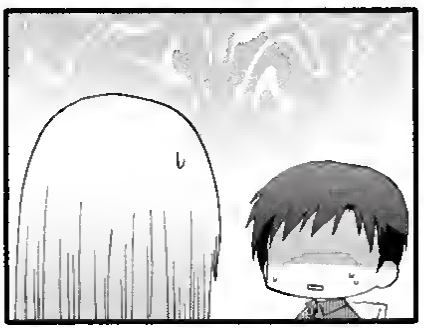

UM ...
I-I KNOW.
!?
THIS IS A SERIOUS TOPIC...

?
?
YOUR CHOICE OF TOPIC WAS SO UTTERLY BORING, I JUST COULDN'T HELP BUT LAUGH...

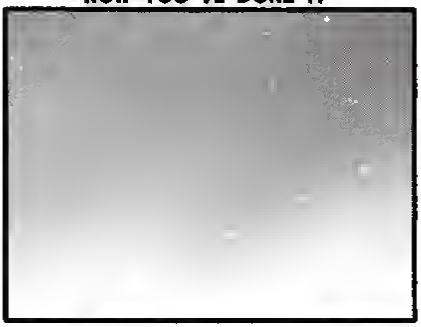
...UM, AS A LITTLE EXPERIMENT ...
COME TO THINK OF IT, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIM OTHER THAN HIS HISTORY WITH HASEBE-SAN.

!?
WHY DON'T WE TRY TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING OTHER THAN HASEBE-SAN?

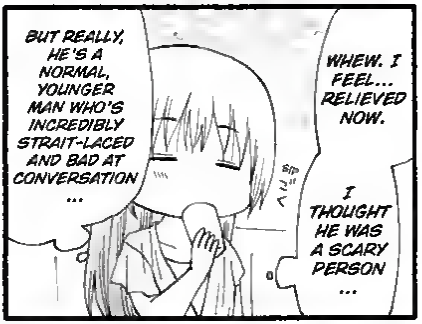


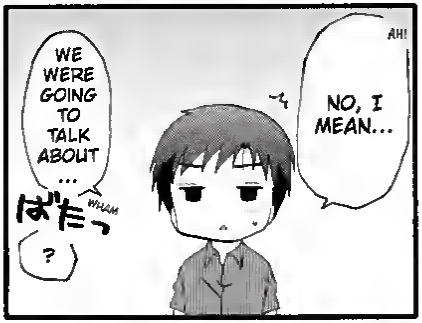


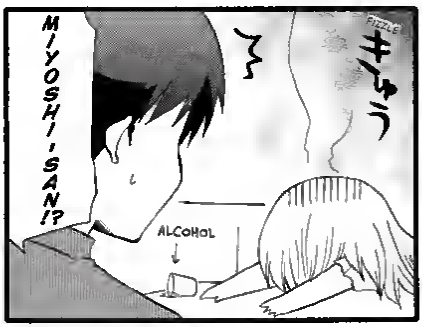
NOW YOU'VE DONE IT

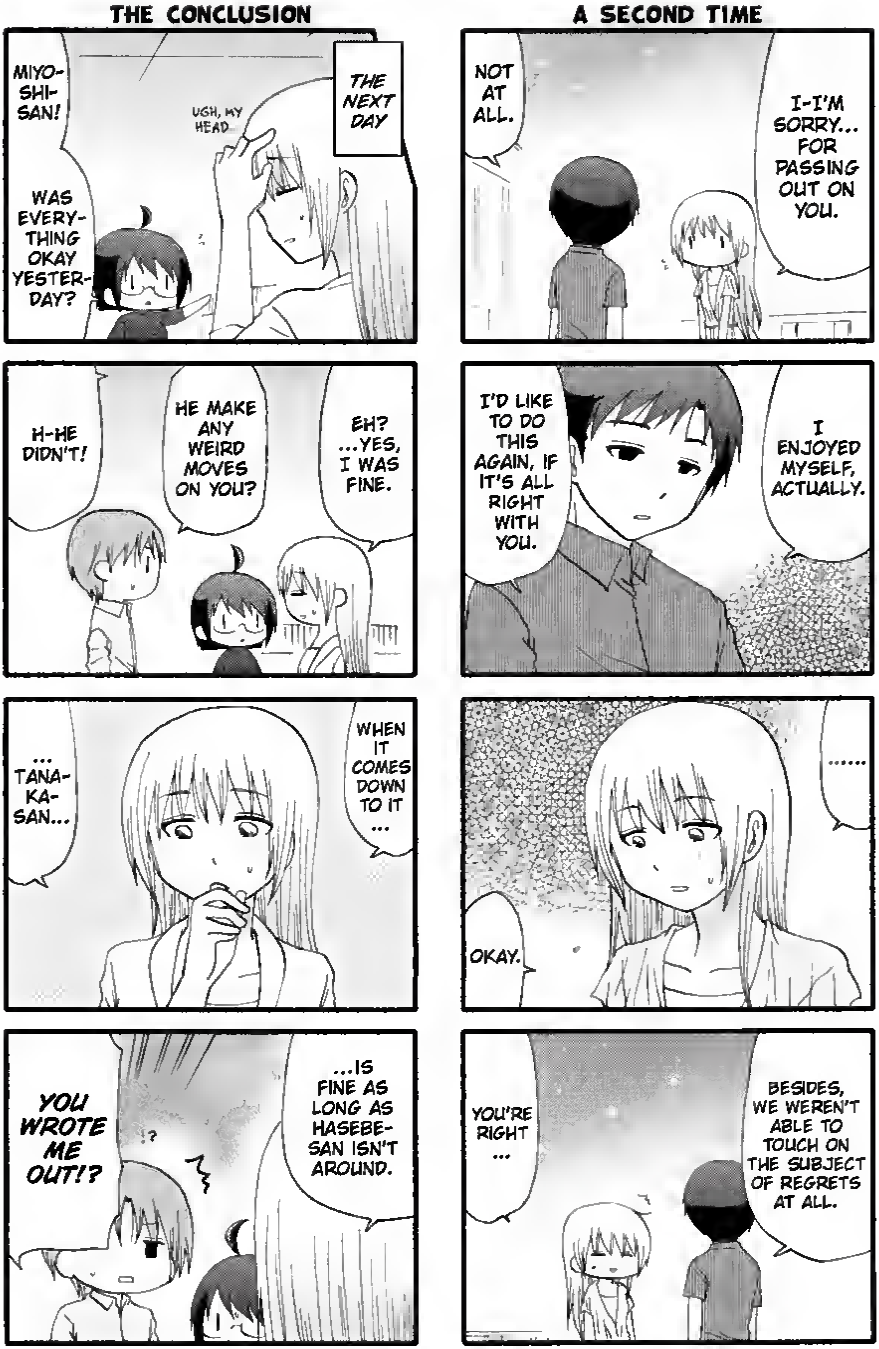


WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT

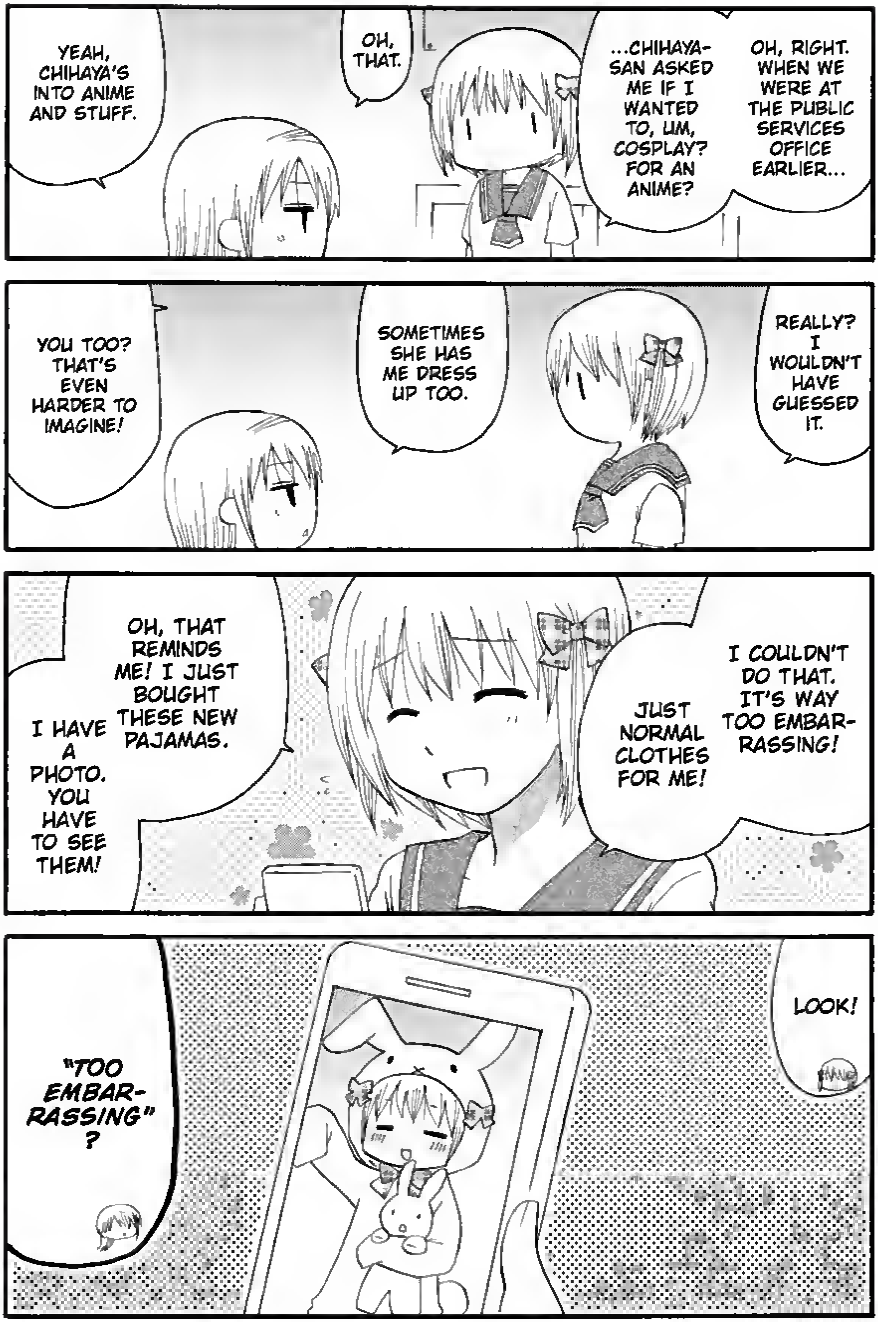

WHEW. I FEEL... RELIEVED NOW.
I THOUGHT HE WAS A SCARY PERSON ...
BUT REALLY, HE'S A NORMAL, YOUNGER MAN WHO'S INCREDIBLY STRAIT-LACED AND BAD AT CONVERSATION ...
SIP

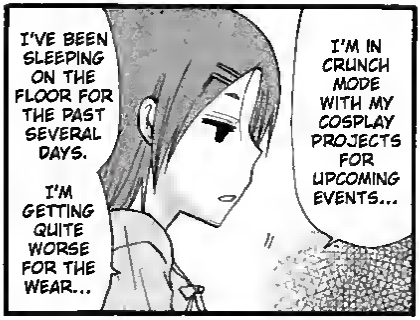


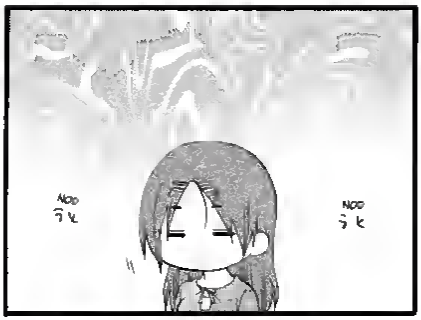



THE CONCLUSION
MIYO-SHI-SAN!
WAS EVERY-THING OKAY YESTER-DAY?
UGH, MY HEAD
THE NEXT DAY
H-HE DIDN'T!
HE MAKE ANY WEIRD MOVES ON YOU?
EH? ...YES, I WAS FINE.
... TANA-KA-SAN...
WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT ...
YOU WROTE ME OUT!?
?
...IS FINE AS LONG AS HASEBE-SAN ISN'T AROUND.
A SECOND TIME
NOT AT ALL.
I-I'M SORRY... FOR PASSING OUT ON YOU.
I'D LIKE TO DO THIS AGAIN, IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU.
I ENJOYED MYSELF, ACTUALLY.
OKAY.
.....
YOU'RE RIGHT ...
BESIDES, WE WEREN'T ABLE TO TOUCH ON THE SUBJECT OF REGRETS AT ALL.

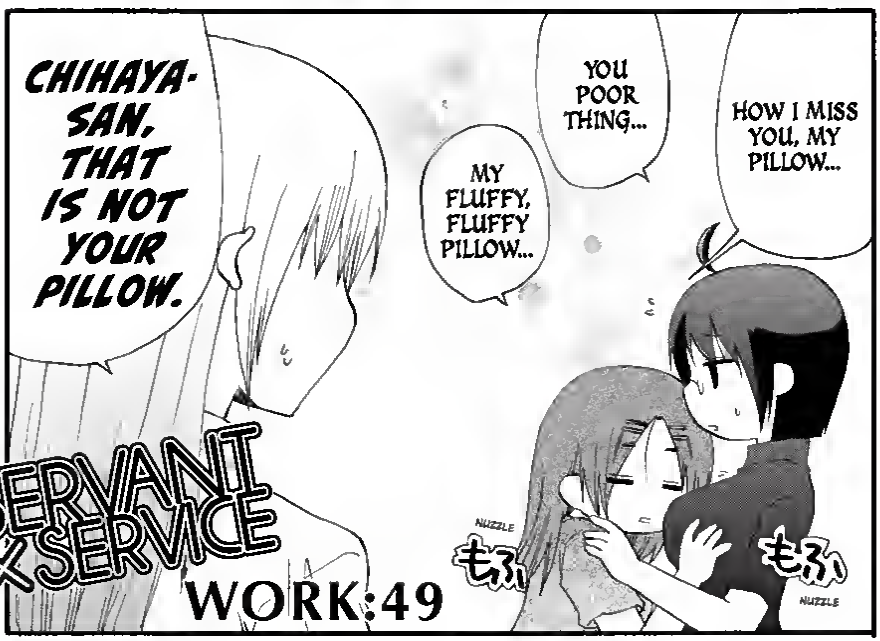
YES?
...UM, TANAKA-SAN?
ERM... ABOUT HASEBE-SAN... WELL...
HOW IS HE...WITH WOMEN .....?
?
IS HE A GENTLEMAN?
HASEBE ?
N—
NO, HE WOULDN'T.
HE ACTS VERY CASUAL, BUT HE WOULD NEVER DO ANYTHING DISHONORABLE.
THEN YAMAGAMI-SAN SHOULD HAVE NO REASON TO WORRY EITHER .....
OH.
FOR SOME REASON, WHEN WE WERE STILL IN SCHOOL, THERE WERE RUMORS THAT HE MIGHT BE GAY.
"FOR SOME REASON"? YOU'RE THE REASON!


YEAH, CHIHAYA'S INTO ANIME AND STUFF.
OH, THAT.
...CHIHAYA-SAN ASKED ME IF I WANTED TO, UM, COSPLAY? FOR AN ANIME?
OH, RIGHT. WHEN WE WERE AT THE PUBLIC SERVICES OFFICE EARLIER...
YOU TOO? THAT'S EVEN HARDER TO IMAGINE!
SOMETIMES SHE HAS ME DRESS UP TOO.
REALLY? I WOULDN'T HAVE GUESSED IT.
I HAVE A PHOTO. YOU HAVE TO SEE THEM!
OH, THAT REMINDS ME! I JUST BOUGHT THESE NEW PAJAMAS.
JUST NORMAL CLOTHES FOR ME!
I COULDN'T DO THAT. IT'S WAY TOO EMBARRASSING!
"TOO EMBARRASSING"?
LOOK!


I'VE BEEN SLEEPING ON THE FLOOR FOR THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS.
I'M GETTING QUITE WORSE FOR THE WEAR...
I'M IN CRUNCH MODE WITH MY COSPLAY PROJECTS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS...



IF I SLEPT ON MY BED WITH MY PILLOW, I'D FALL FAST ASLEEP...
AND MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO GET BACK UP.
BUT WHY!?
WHAT!? YOU'RE SLEEPING ON THE FLOOR!?
WITH NO FUTON!?

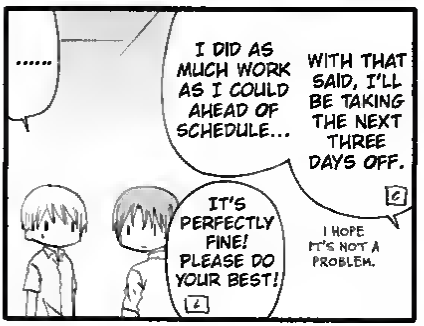


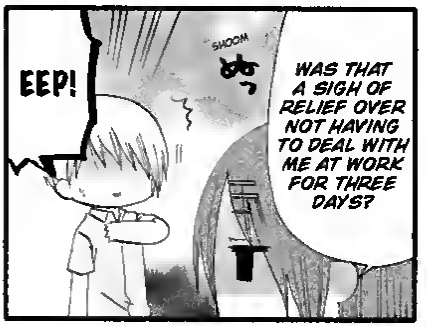
SERVANT × SERVICE

WORK:49

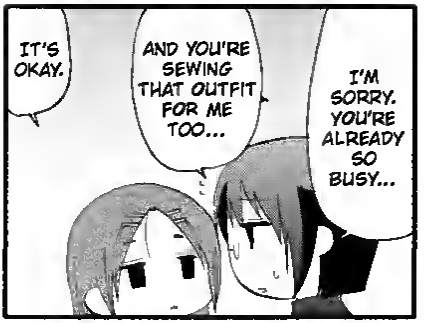
WATCHING OVER HER

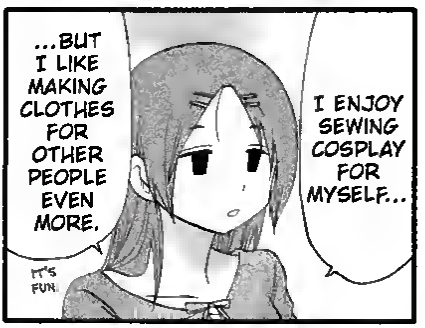
BUT I WANT TO FINISH EARLY AND SPEND THE REST OF THE TIME UNTIL THE EVENT PERFECTING THE FINISHING TOUCHES.
I STILL HAVE SOME TIME.
I-IS IT COMING UP SOON?
YOUR COSPLAY EVENT

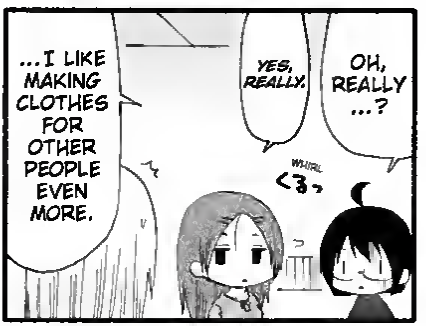

.....
I DID AS MUCH WORK AS I COULD AHEAD OF SCHEDULE...
WITH THAT SAID, I'LL BE TAKING THE NEXT THREE DAYS OFF.
IT'S PERFECTLY FINE! PLEASE DO YOUR BEST!
I HOPE IT'S NOT A PROBLEM.

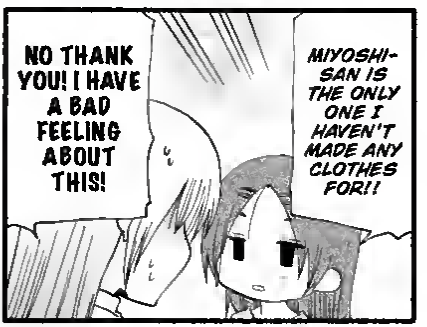


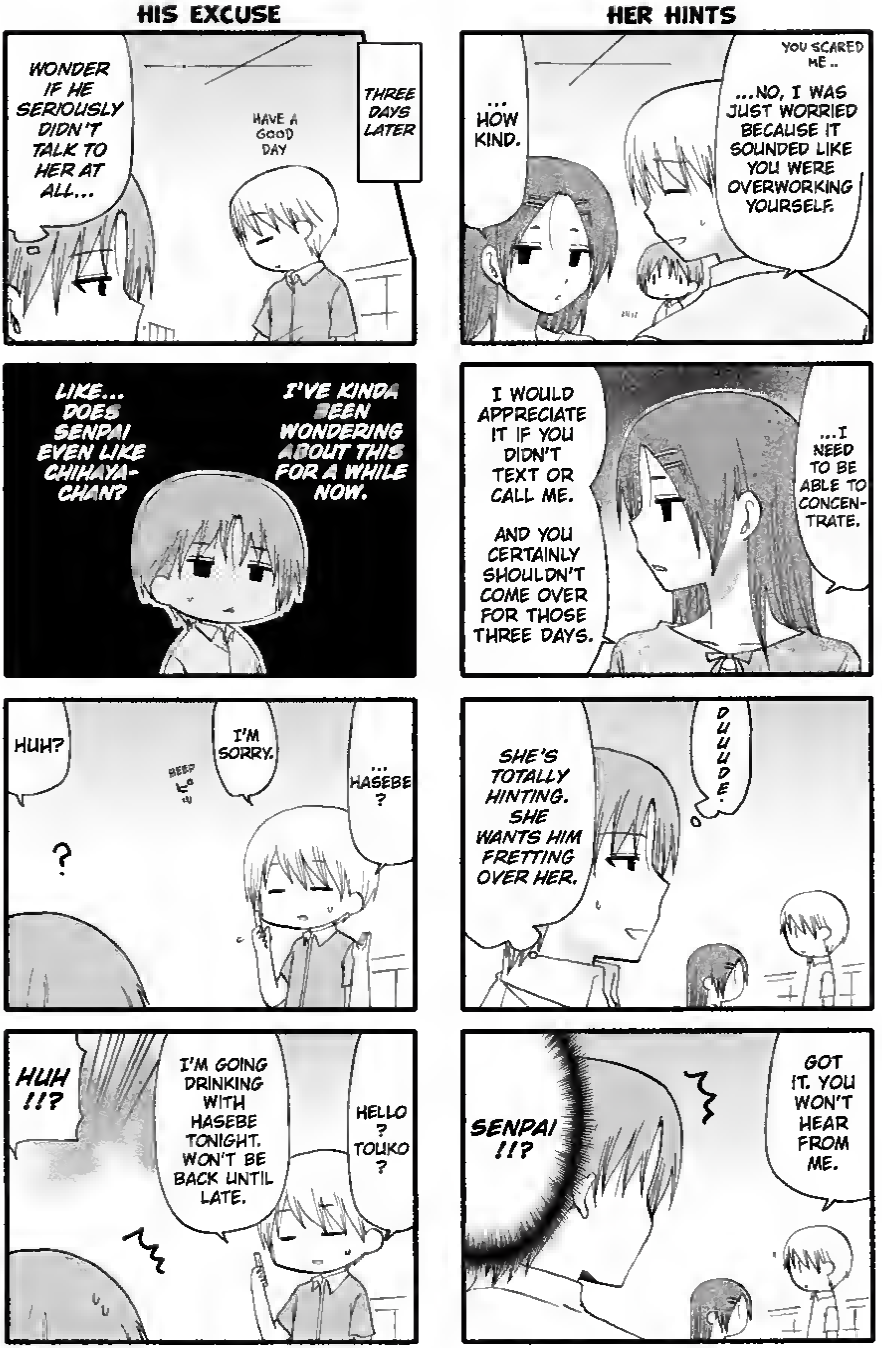
CHIHAYA'S FAVORITE THING



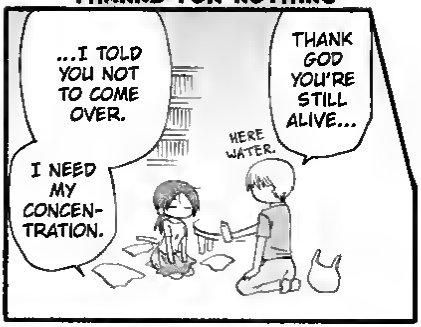


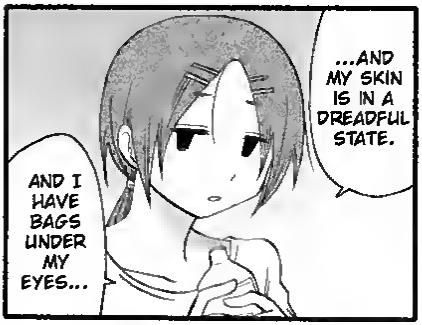




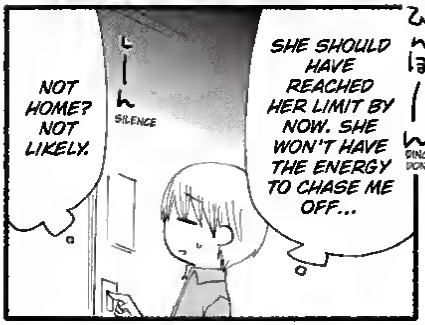

HIS EXCUSE
HER HINTS
WONDER IF HE SERIOUSLY DIDN'T TALK TO HER AT ALL...
HAVE A GOOD DAY
THREE DAYS LATER
...HOW KIND.
YOU SCARED ME..
...NO, I WAS JUST WORRIED BECAUSE IT SOUNDED LIKE YOU WERE OVERWORKING YOURSELF.
LIKE... DOES SENPAI EVEN LIKE CHIHAYA-CHAN?
I'VE KINDA BEEN WONDERING ABOUT THIS FOR A WHILE NOW.
I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU DIDN'T TEXT OR CALL ME.
AND YOU CERTAINLY SHOULDN'T COME OVER FOR THOSE THREE DAYS.
...I NEED TO BE ABLE TO CONCENTRATE.
HUH?
?
BEEP
I'M SORRY.
...HASEBE?
SHE'S TOTALLY HINTING. SHE WANTS HIM FRETTING OVER HER.
DUUUDE.
HUH!!?
I'M GOING DRINKING WITH HASEBE TONIGHT. WON'T BE BACK UNTIL LATE.
HELLO? TOUKO?
SENPAI!!?
GOT IT. YOU WON'T HEAR FROM ME.

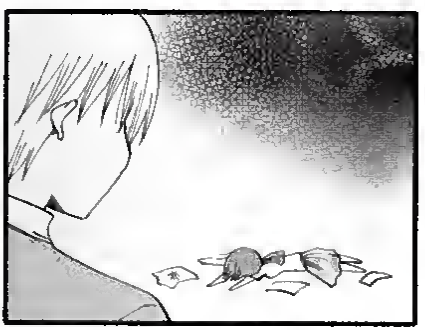
THANKS FOR NOTHING



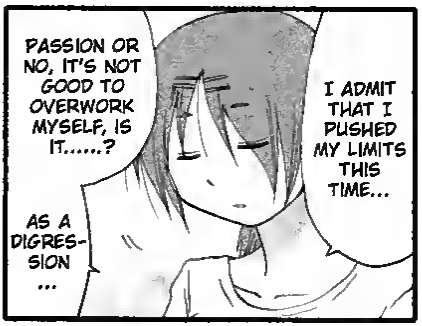


REALITY ON THE THIRD DAY


NOT HOME? NOT LIKELY.
SILENCE
SHE SHOULD HAVE REACHED HER LIMIT BY NOW. SHE WON'T HAVE THE ENERGY TO CHASE ME OFF...
PIN-PON DING-DONG

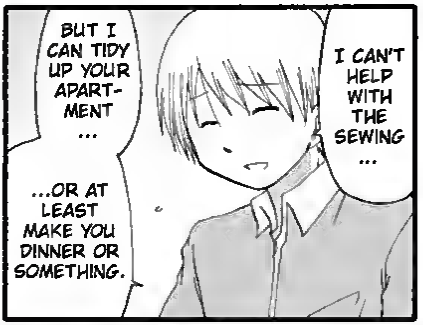


GOING TOO FAR

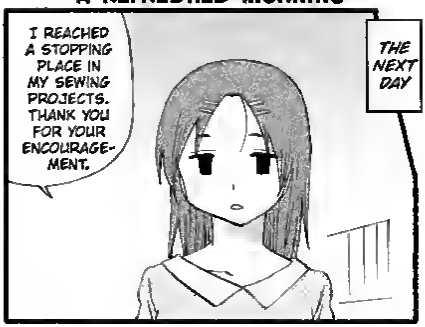


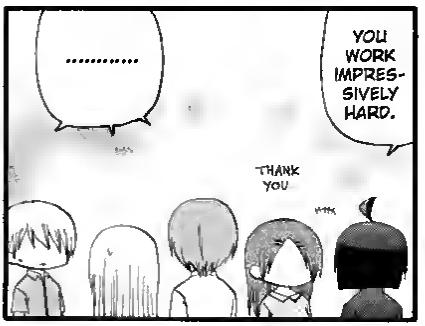
JUST GO TO SLEEP !!!!
WHEN PEOPLE HAVE GONE PAST THEIR LIMIT, INSTINCTS KICK IN, AND THEY'RE DRIVEN TO LEAVE DESCENDANTS BEHIND.
WHUMP
がばぁ

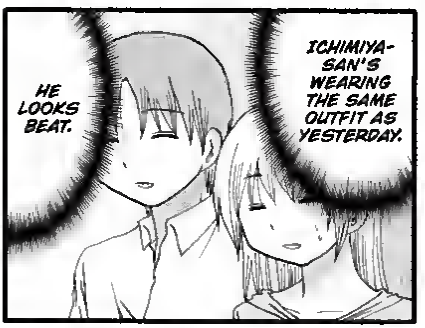
CONTRARY HEART



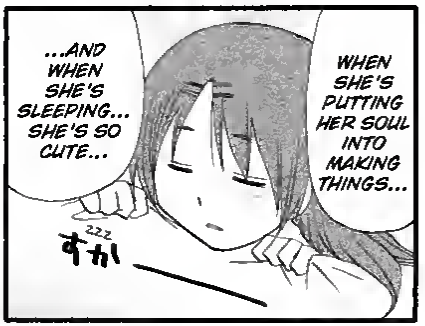
A REFRESHED MORNING

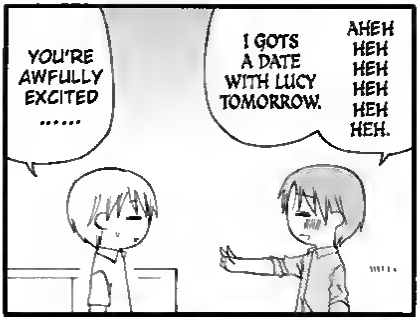




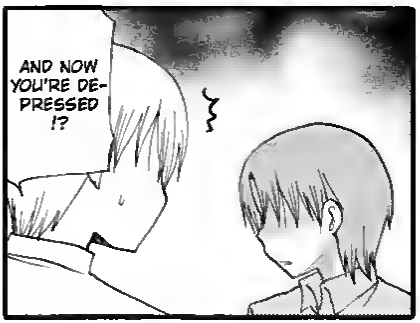


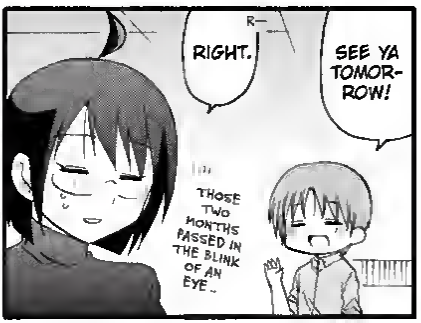
HER MOMENT




YOU'RE AWFULLY EXCITED ……
I GOTS A DATE WITH LUCY TOMORROW.
AHEH HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH.

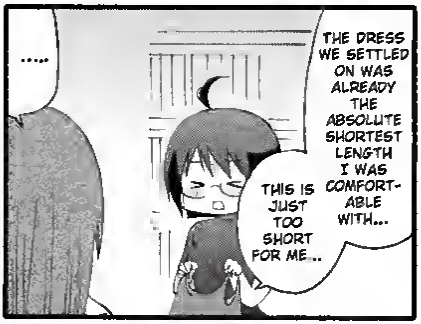
THAT TAKES CARE OF WHEN AND WHERE WE'LL MEET.
SO, LIKE …

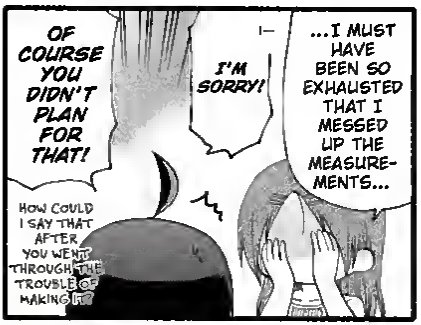

AND NOW YOU'RE DE-PRESSED !?


RIGHT.
SEE YA TOMOR-ROW!
THOSE TWO MONTHS PASSED IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE.

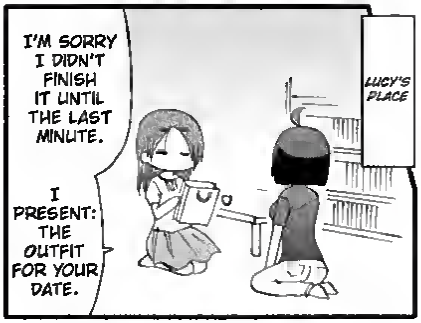
SERVANT X SERVICE
HE STILL HASN'T?
I SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN HER CONTACT INFO JUST NOW…
WORK:50

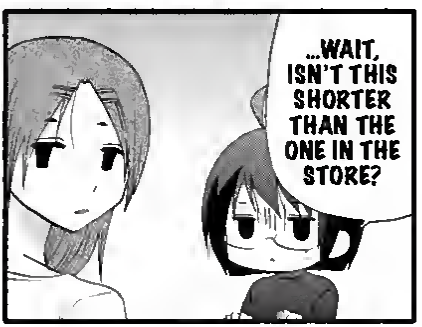
MISCALCULATION UPON MISCALCULATION



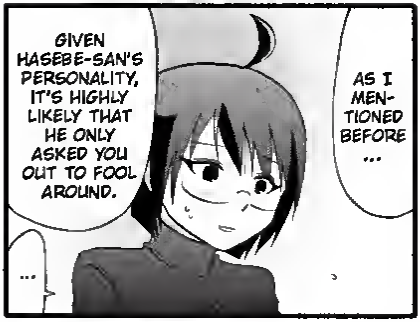

OF COURSE YOU DIDN'T PLAN FOR THAT!
HOW COULD I SAY THAT AFTER YOU WENT THROUGH THE TROUBLE OF MAKING IT?
I'M SORRY!
...I MUST HAVE BEEN SO EXHAUSTED THAT I MESSED UP THE MEASUREMENTS...

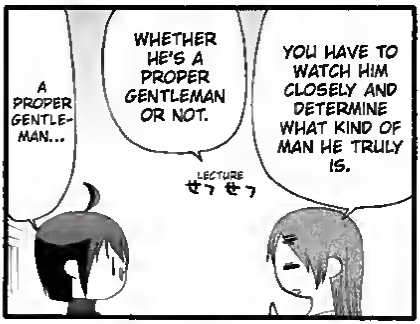
THAT'S SO CHIHAYA

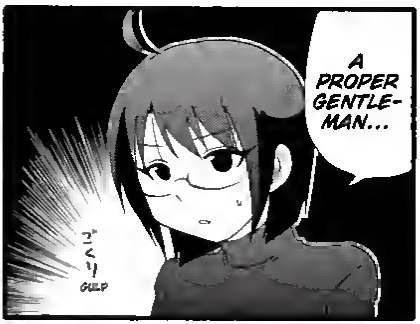




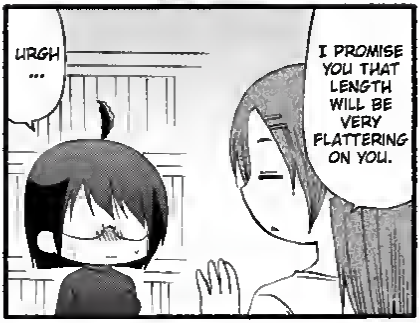
LUCY'S VIEW OF MEN

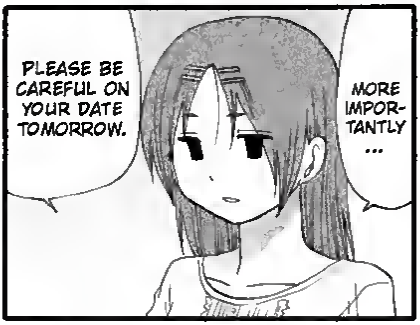


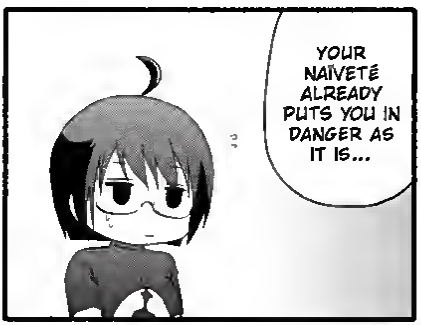

A PROPER GENTLEMAN...
WHETHER HE'S A PROPER GENTLEMAN OR NOT.
YOU HAVE TO WATCH HIM CLOSELY AND DETERMINE WHAT KIND OF MAN HE TRULY IS.
LECTURE
ぜっ ぜっ

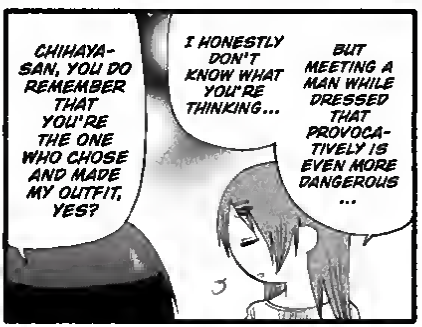


GET MAD

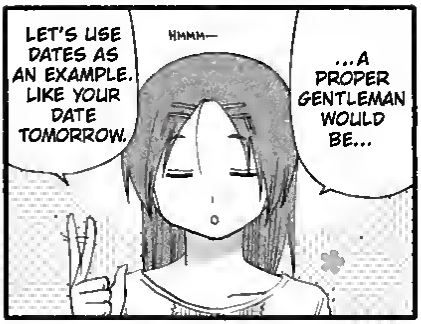


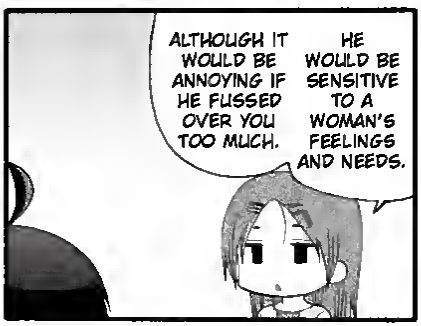


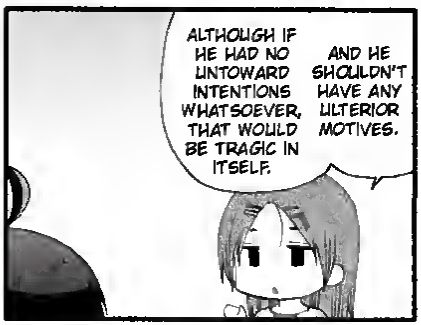


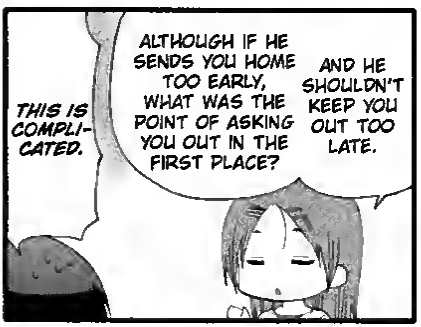

CHIHAYA-SAN, YOU DO REMEMBER THAT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CHOSE AND MADE MY OUTFIT, YES?
I HONESTLY DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING...
BUT MEETING A MAN WHILE DRESSED THAT PROVOCATIVELY IS EVEN MORE DANGEROUS ...

A PROPER GENTLEMAN

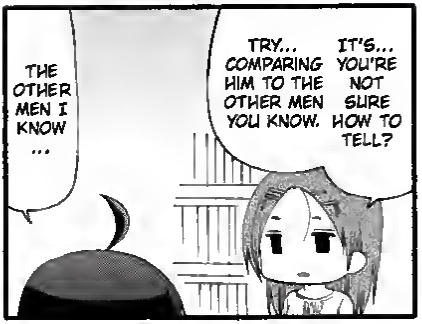


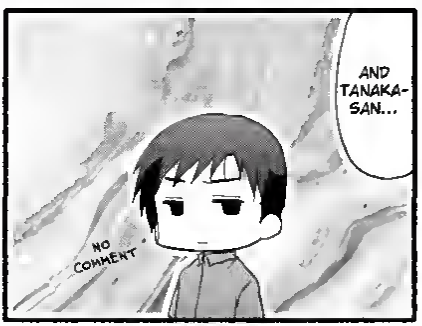


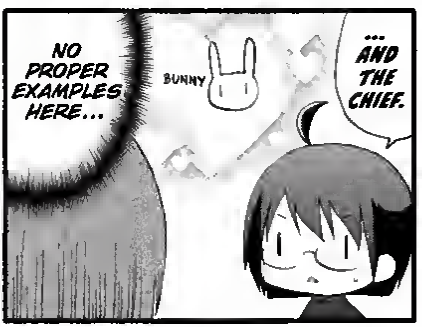

ALTHOUGH IF HE HAD NO UNTOWARD INTENTIONS WHATSOEVER, THAT WOULD BE TRAGIC IN ITSELF.
AND HE SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY ULTERIOR MOTIVES.


THIS IS COMPLI-CATED.
ALTHOUGH IF HE SENDS YOU HOME TOO EARLY, WHAT WAS THE POINT OF ASKING YOU OUT IN THE FIRST PLACE?
AND HE SHOULDN'T KEEP YOU OUT TOO LATE.

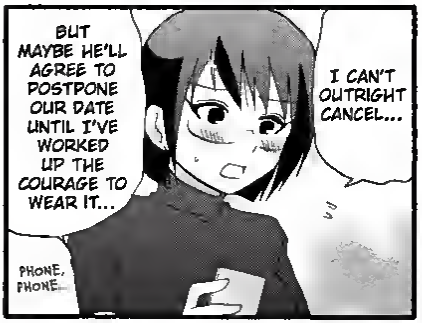
SO MUCH FOR THAT

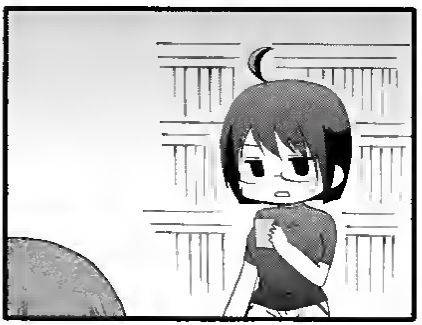


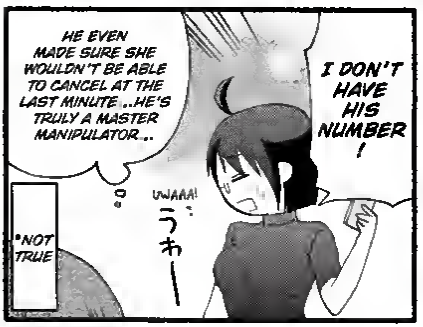




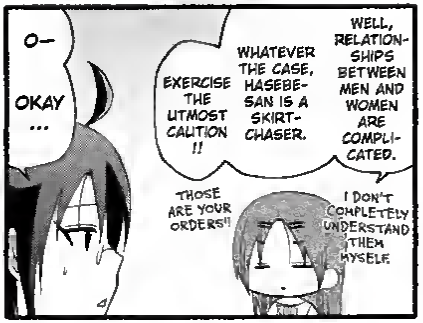
DISASTER

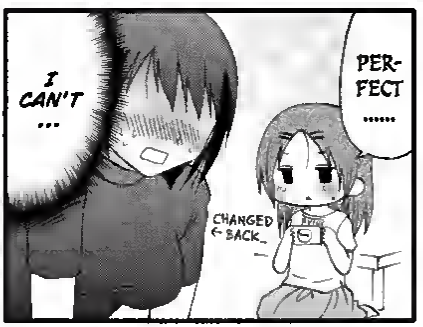




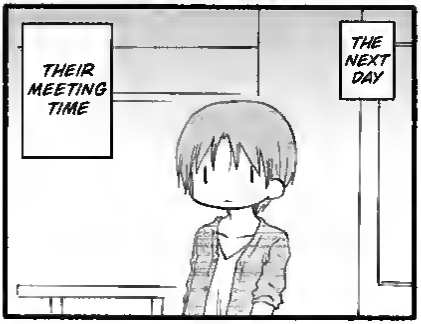

HE EVEN MADE SURE SHE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO CANCEL AT THE LAST MINUTE ...HE'S TRULY A MASTER MANIPULATOR...
I DON'T HAVE HIS NUMBER!
UWAAA!
うわー
*NOT TRUE

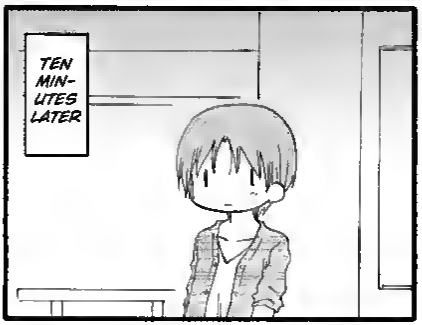
BLACKOUT

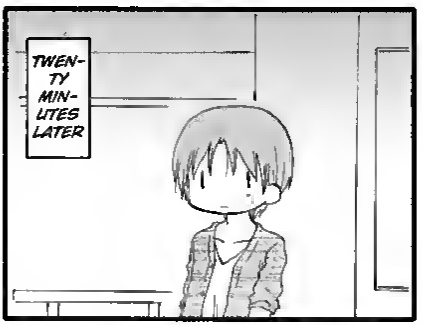

O—
OKAY...
EXERCISE THE UTMOST CAUTION!!
WHATEVER THE CASE, HASEBE-SAN IS A SKIRT-CHASER.
WELL, RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN ARE COMPLICATED.
THOSE ARE YOUR ORDERS!!
I DON'T COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND THEM MYSELF.



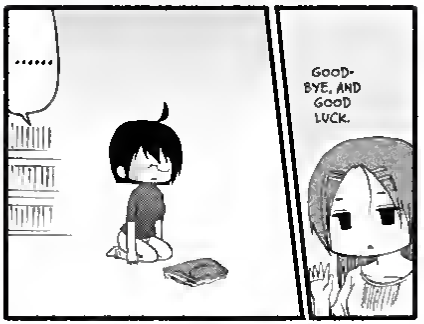
MEETING UP



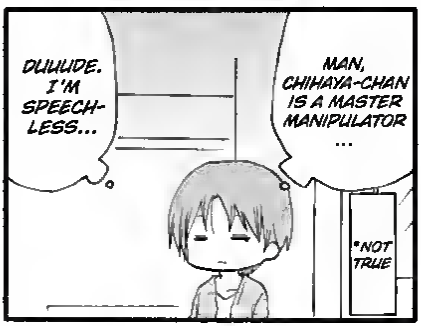


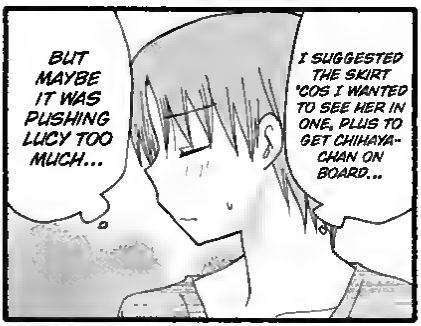


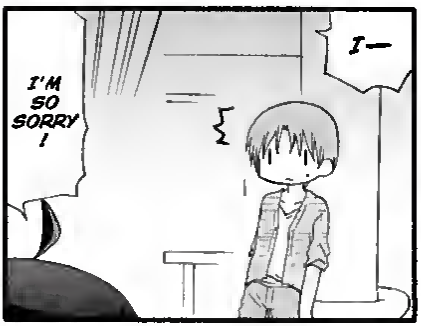
ONE-TIME THING



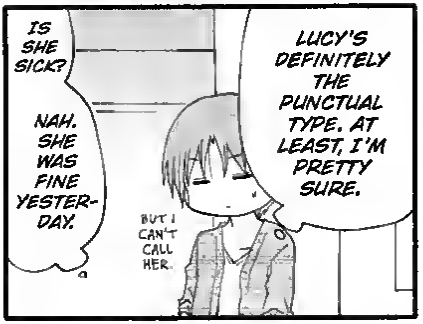
A BIG MISCALCULATION

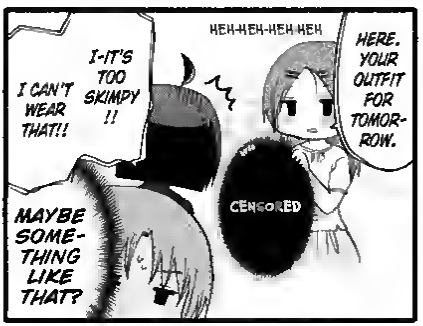


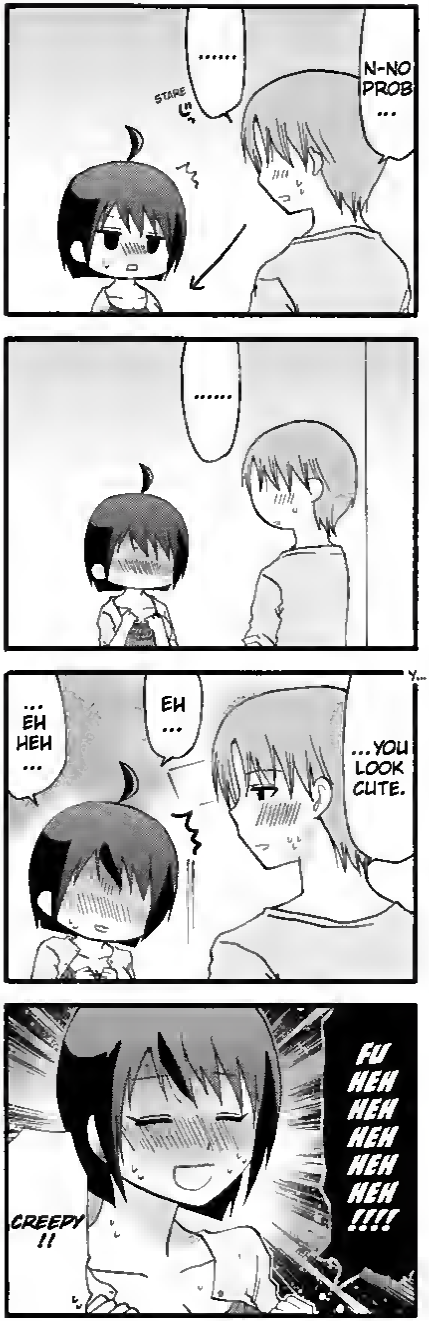




A BIG HOLE IN THE PLAN



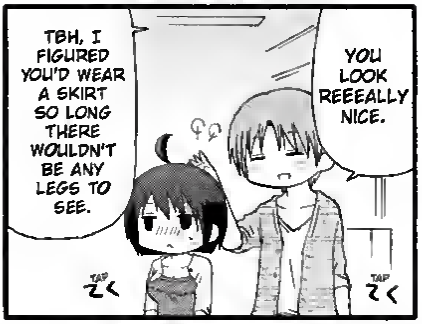


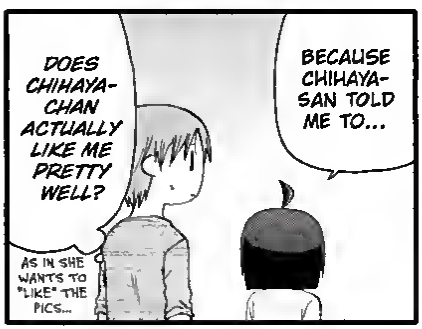

.....
N-NO PROB...
STARE
.....
...EH HEH...
EH...
...YOU LOOK CUTE.
FU HEH HEH HEH HEH !!!!
CREEPY !!
I AM SO SORRY I'M LATE!!
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
I MIS-CALCULATED HOW MUCH LONGER IT WOULD TAKE ME TO WALK IN HEELS...
TOTTER

LUCY, TURN AROUND.
FU HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH
SNAP
SNAP
LUCY'S FU HEH HEH HEH
LAST TIME:
HEH HEH HEH
FU HEH HEH HEH
HEH HEH HEH HEH
GIVE US A SMILE AND A PEACE SIGN, LUCY.
FU HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH
SNAP
SNAP
CHILL, LUCY.
FU HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH
.....
DO A SEXY POSE, LUCY.
BADUM
BADUM
おく
おく
SNAP
SNAP
AH!
はっ
SEXY ...
WHAT ARE YOU MAKING ME DO!?
SERVANT X SERVICE

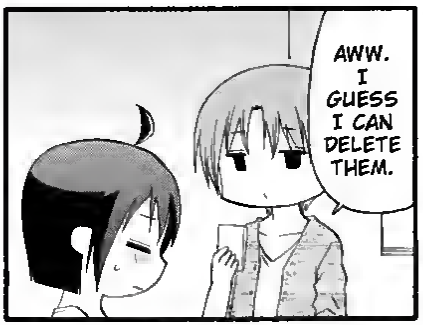
WORK:51

A SURPRISING GIRL

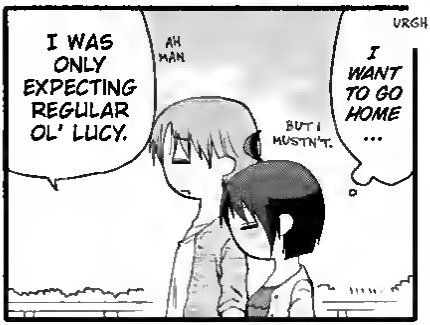




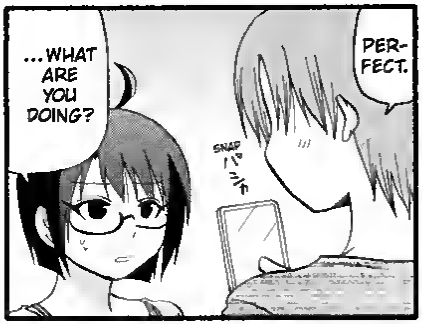
PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY OVER PHOTOS



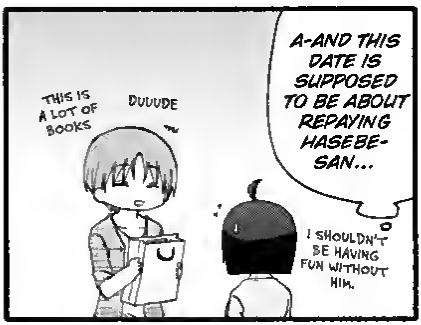
DESTINATION



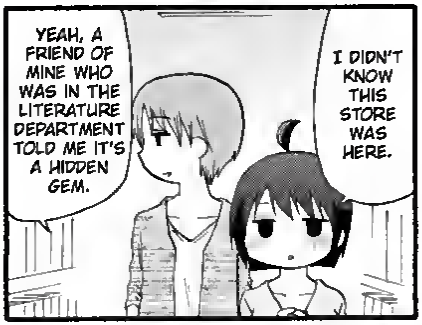
SOMETHING VITAL

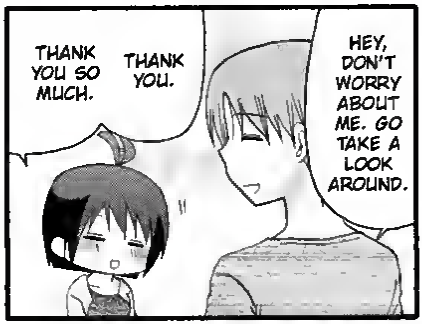


PSYCHED UP

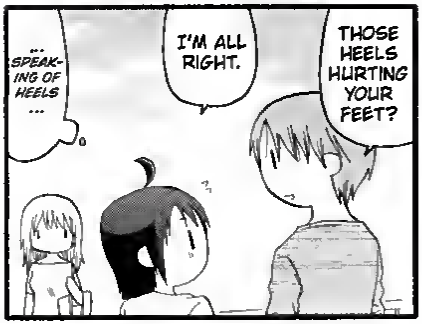

THIS IS A LOT OF BOOKS
DUUUDE
A-AND THIS DATE IS SUPPOSED TO BE ABOUT REPAYING HASEBE-SAN...
I SHOULDN'T BE HAVING FUN WITHOUT HIM.

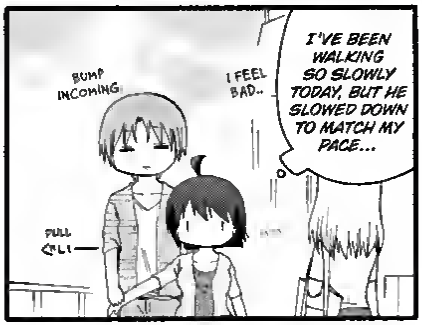
TECHNICALLY A DATE

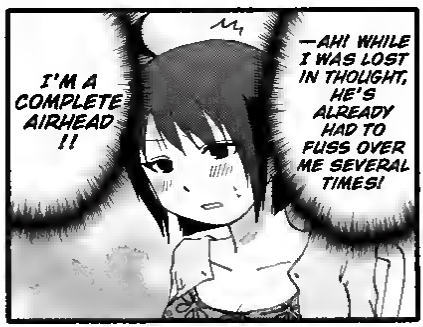




HE'S A KEEPER ①

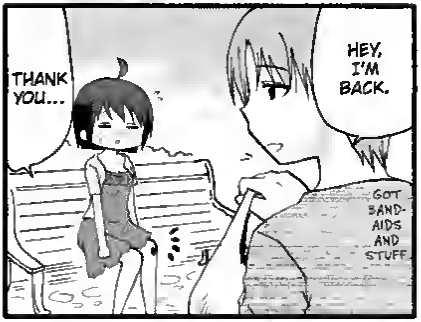




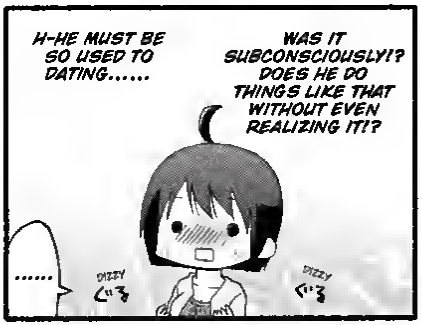


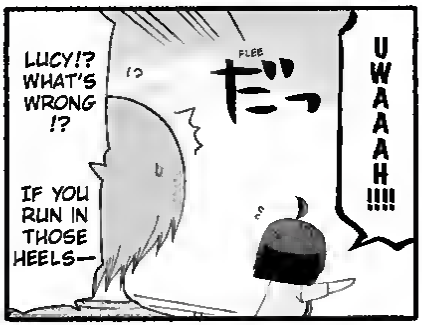
HE'S A KEEPER ②

THE SAME OLD HASEBE



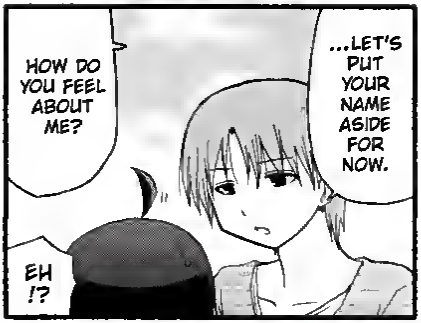
OVERLOADED



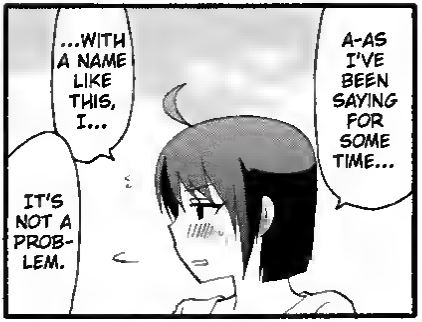


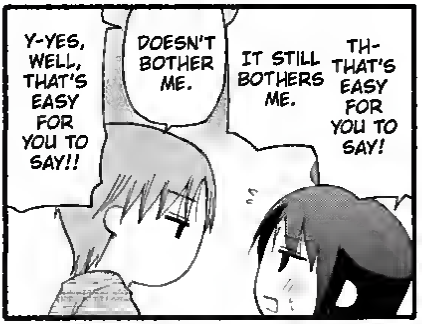
ANOTHER HASEBE
AND I CAN'T DRAG YOU AROUND TOWN ON THAT KNEE NOW.
YOU RELAXED PRETTY FAST.
UM...
MY HAND...
SQUEEZE
SO LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS.
SAME OLD HASEBE
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, HASEBE-SAN IS ALWAYS DOING LITTLE KIND THINGS...
WHEW.
SAME OLD, SAME OLD.
SHOULDA KEPT MY MOUTH SHUT
MM-HM.
THAT'S HARD TO BELIEVE, WITH THAT SILLY SMILE...
I'MA BE SERIOUS HERE.
G-GOOD-NESS.
WANT A PIECE OF CANDY?
LUCY.
POISED
WILL YOU GO OUT WITH ME?
ALL RIGHT.
?
REACH
HE LOOKS SERIOUS.
SHOOT! THIS IS ALSO THE SAME OLD HASEBE-SAN!
CLAMP

FACE-TO-FACE

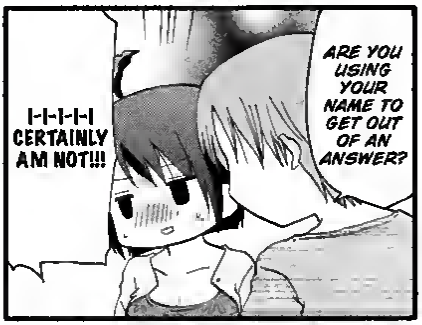


BIGGEST OBSTACLE

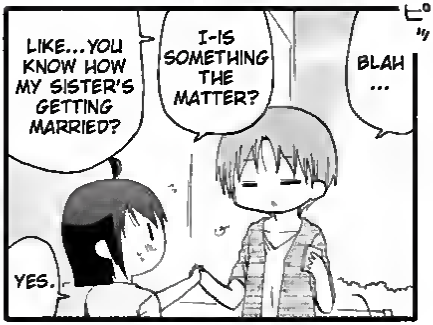


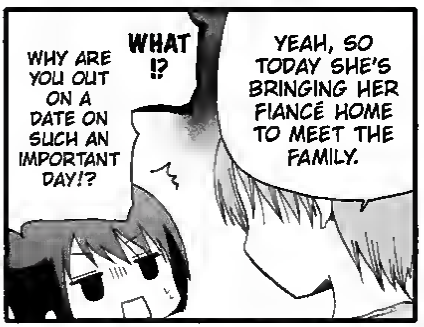


THAT'S WHY I NEED TO TAKE CARE OF MY NAME FIRST—
SEE !!!?
PUT THE SMACKDOWN ON ALL THOSE INVOLVED.
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WERE IN MY SHOES!?
LUCY.

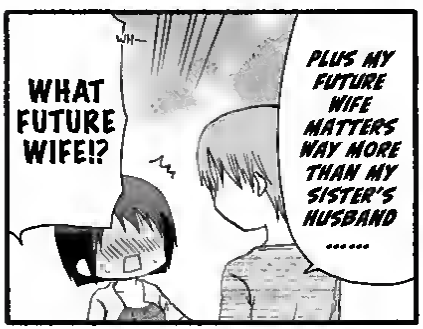


PRIORITIES

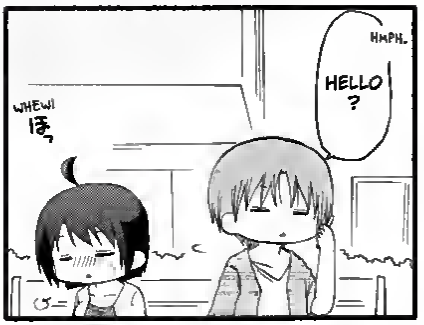




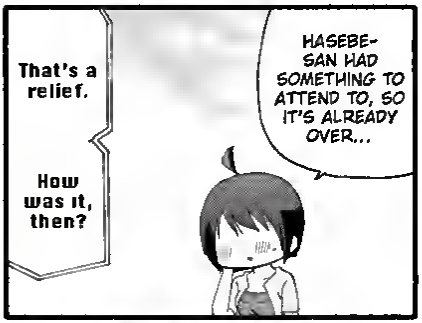
GO GET HER, TIGER!!
AND KAORU SAID SHE DIDN'T MIND...
I MEAN, I MADE THESE PLANS WITH YOU BEFORE THAT WAS A THING.
OH, KAORU-SAN...
A DATE WITH LUCY?



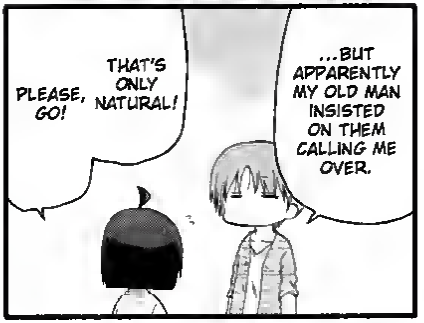
HE'S PERFECT

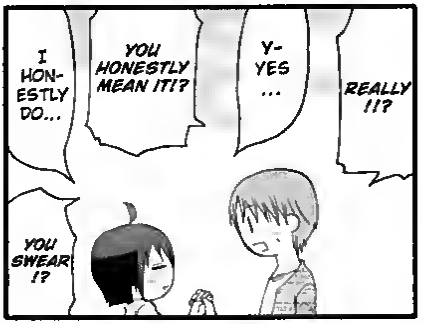


HONEST GIRL

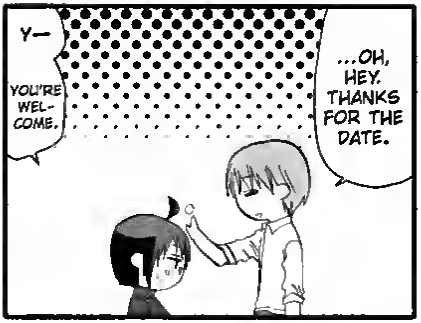


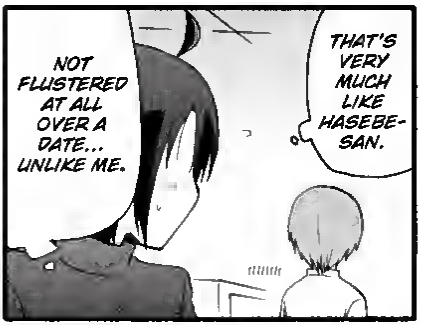
PROMISE BETWEEN ADULTS



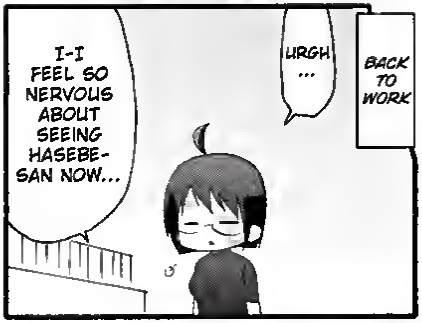


LONELY DISTANCE

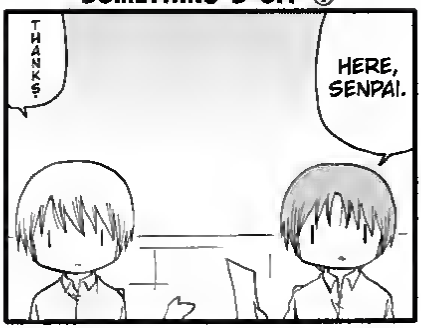




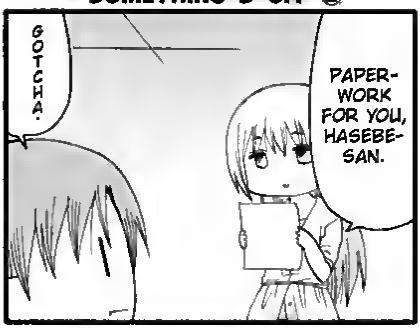
OVERNIGHT

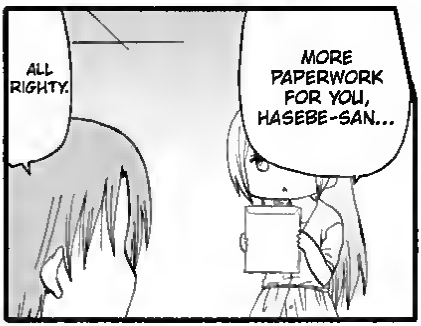


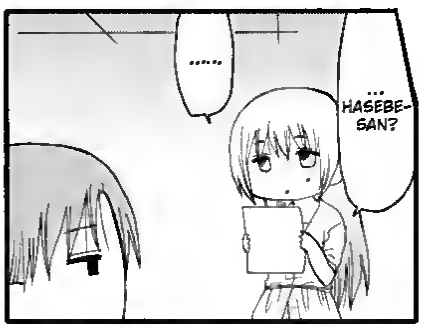
SOMETHING'S OFF ①

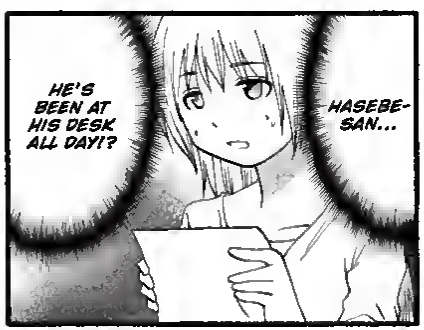


SOMETHING'S OFF ②

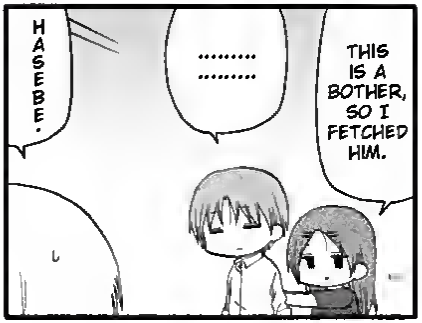


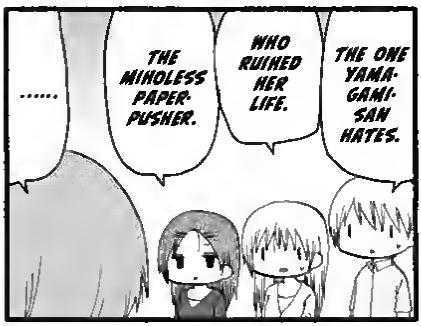




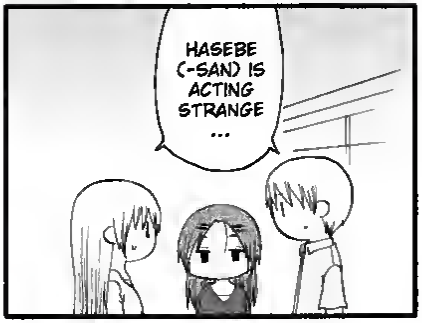


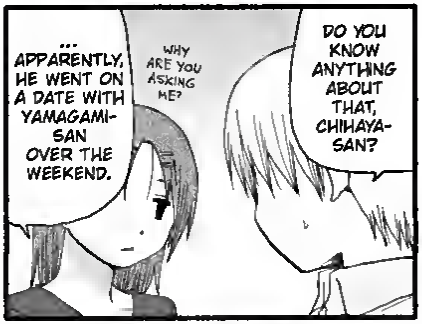
YAMAGAMI'S ARCHENEMY

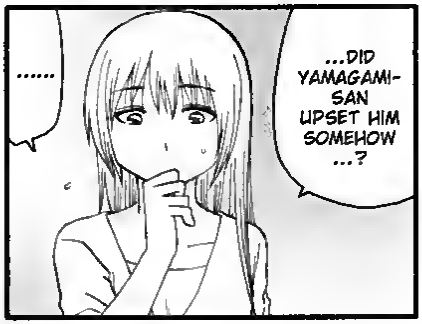


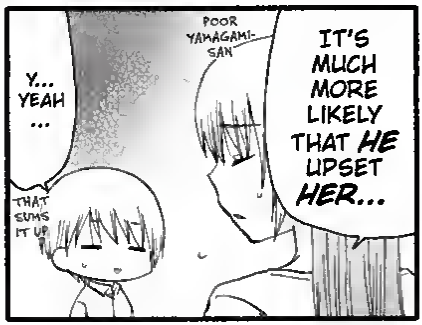


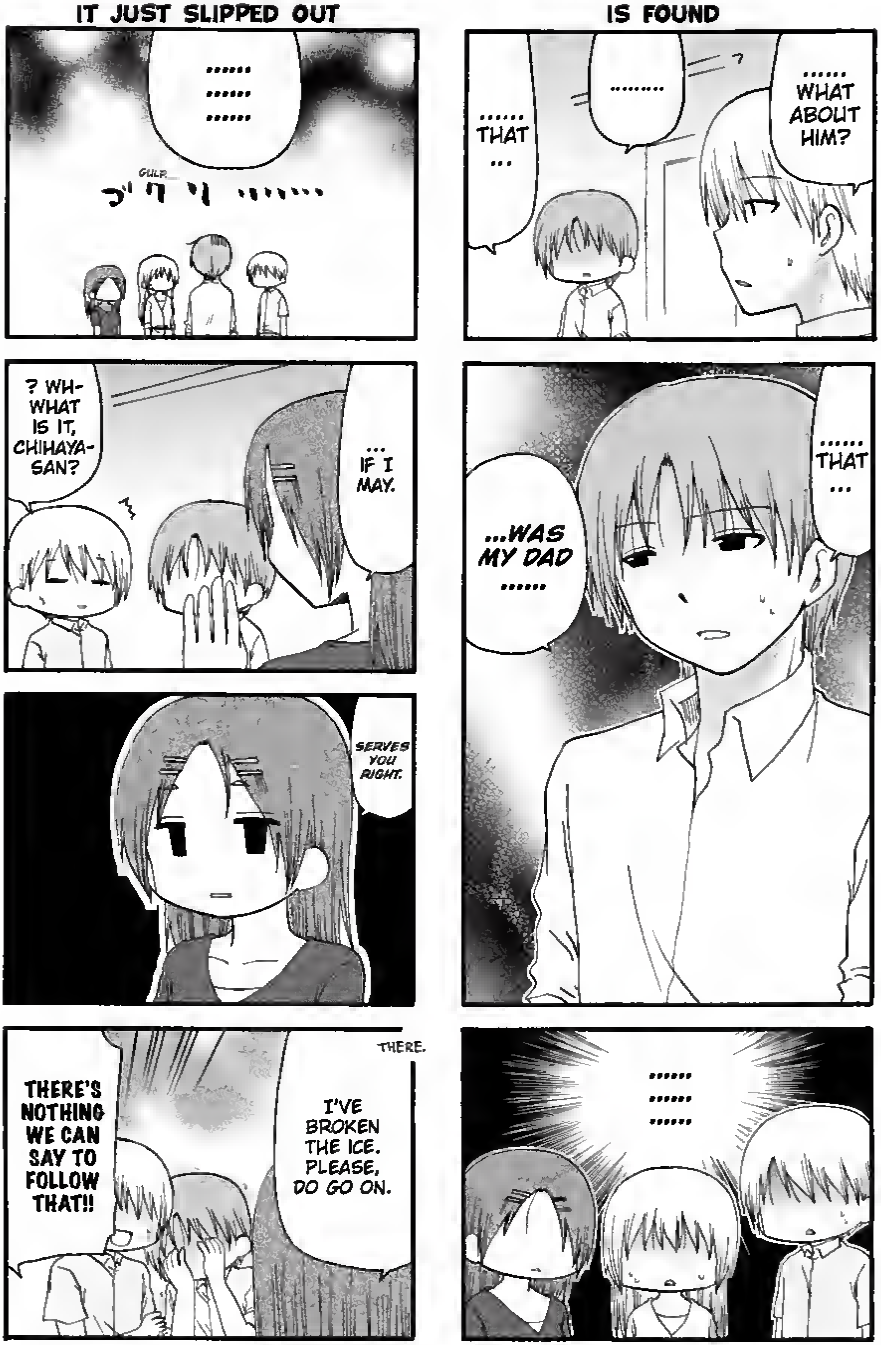
THE ONLY POSSIBILITY




... APPARENTLY, HE WENT ON A DATE WITH YAMAGAMI-SAN OVER THE WEEKEND.
WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME?
DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT, CHIHAYA-SAN?

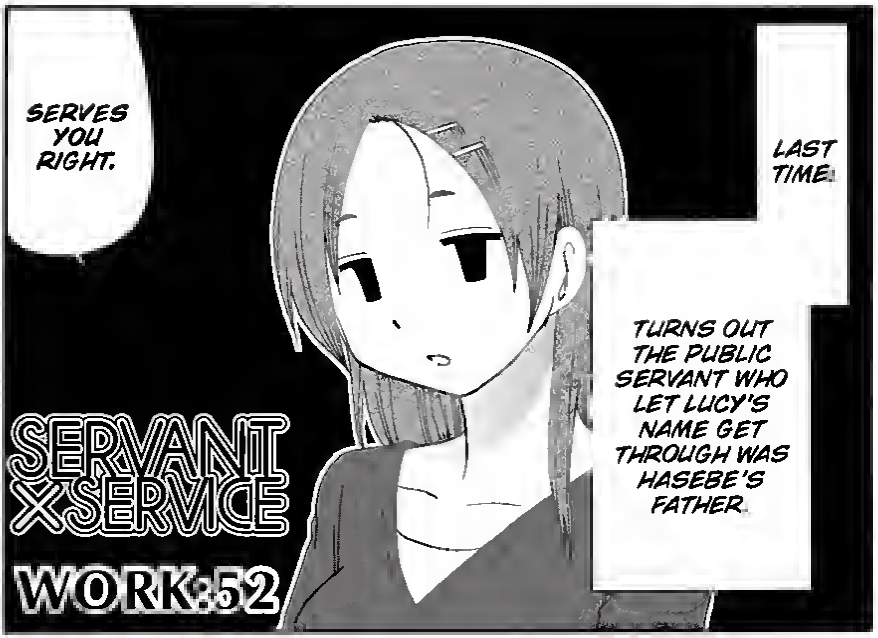





IT JUST SLIPPED OUT
.....
.....
.....
GULP
ごくり ……
IS FOUND
.....
.....
WHAT ABOUT HIM?
.....
THAT ...
? WH-WHAT IS IT, CHIHAYA-SAN?
... IF I MAY.
.....
THAT ...
...WAS MY DAD .....
SERVES YOU RIGHT.
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN SAY TO FOLLOW THAT!!
I'VE BROKEN THE ICE. PLEASE, DO GO ON.
THERE.
.....
.....
.....

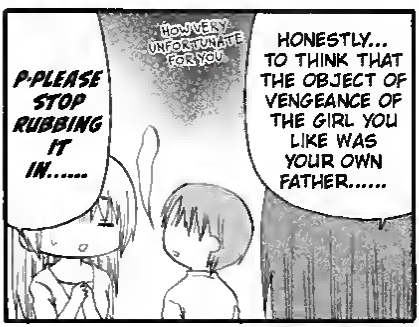
HASEBE-SAN, WHAT DO YOU DO UP ON THE ROOF DURING LUNCH BREAK?
MM-
I GAME.
YOU CERTAINLY ENJOY YOUR VIDEO GAMES.
WANT TO PLAY?
EH, I CARRY IT WITH ME FOR KILLING TIME.
I'VE NEVER PLAYED VIDEO GAMES BEFORE.
!!!
HUH?
FOR REALS?
THAT'S RARE THESE DAYS.
I WASN'T ALLOWED. MY PARENTS SAID IT WOULD INTERFERE WITH MY EDUCATION.
IF YOUR FOLKS ARE THAT UPTIGHT, WHY WAS YOUR NAME THE ONLY THING THEY LOST THEIR WAY OVER?

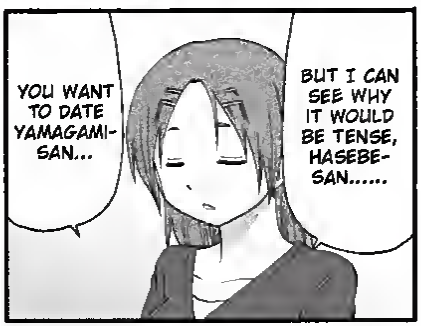
.....
HRM...
I HAVE TO JUMP HERE..
PERK
YOU JUST HAVE TO BEAT THE ENEMIES
WANNA TRY?
OKAY...
.....
NH.
DODGE!
WITHER
MN.
THE ENEMY...
FLINCH
AH!
GHN...
?
YEAAAH, GAMES WOULD'VE BEEN BAD FOR YOUR UPBRINGING...
STOP MOANING!


SERVANT X SERVICE
WORK:52
SERVES YOU RIGHT.
LAST TIME.
TURNS OUT THE PUBLIC SERVANT WHO LET LUCY'S NAME GET THROUGH WAS HASEBE'S FATHER.

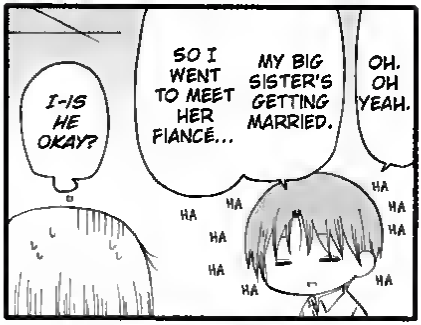
YET THE MAN SHE HATES MOST ...
...IS YOUR VERY OWN FATHER.

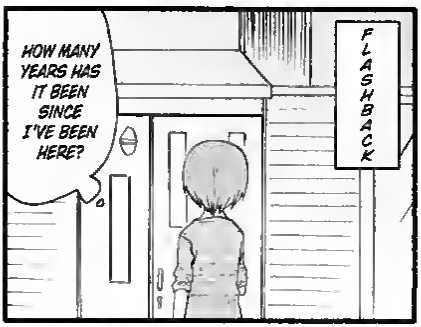
CHI-HAYA-SAN!!
THINGS WERE OVERLY TENSE.
I THOUGHT I WOULD USE A LITTLE BLACK HUMOR TO LIGHTEN THE MOOD...

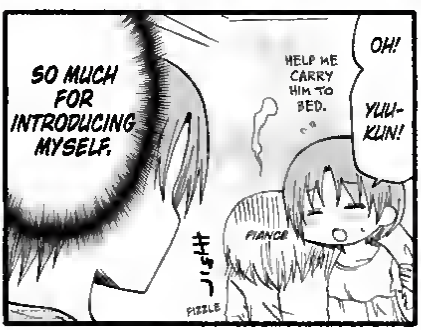

HONESTLY... TO THINK THAT THE OBJECT OF VENGEANCE OF THE GIRL YOU LIKE WAS YOUR OWN FATHER.....
HOW VERY UNFORTUNATE FOR YOU
P-PLEASE STOP RUBBING IT IN.....


BUT I CAN SEE WHY IT WOULD BE TENSE, HASEBE-SAN.....
YOU WANT TO DATE YAMAGAMI-SAN...

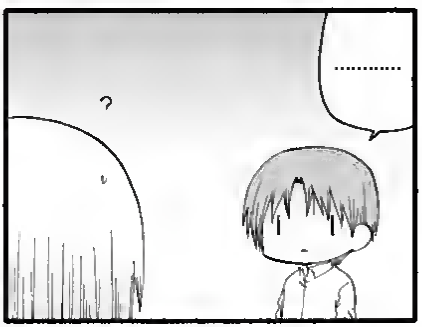
BIG SISTER'S ENGAGEMENT



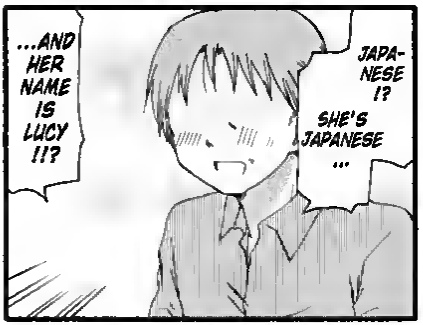


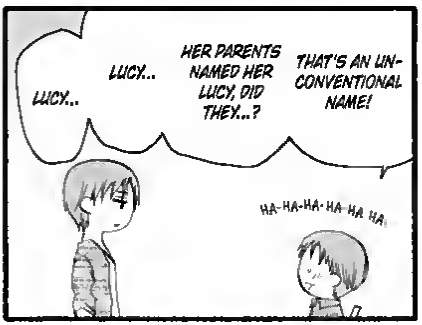


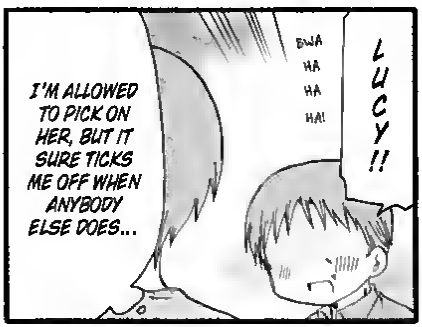
AN IMPORTANT EVENT



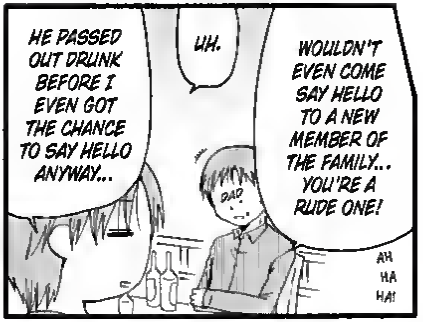
FATHER'S PRESSURE POINT



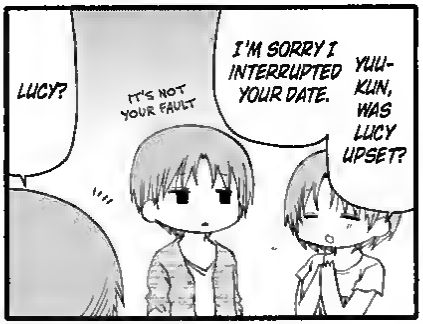


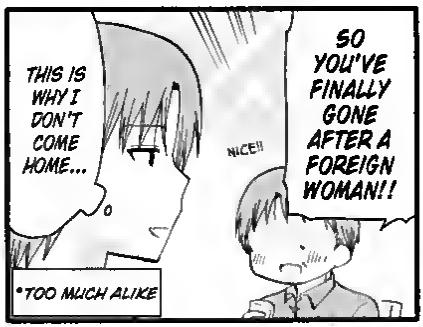


THE HASEBE FAMILY


HE PASSED OUT DRUNK BEFORE I EVEN GOT THE CHANCE TO SAY HELLO ANYWAY...
UH.
WOULDN'T EVEN COME SAY HELLO TO A NEW MEMBER OF THE FAMILY... YOU'RE A RUDE ONE!
DAD?
AH HA HA!

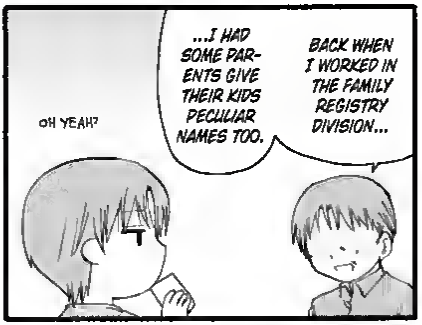
DON'T BE LIKE THAT! YOU HAVEN'T VISITED IN YEARS. DRINK WITH ME, YUTAKA!
...CAN I GO NOW?
I POURED HIM ONE TOO MANY DRINKS.
HA-HA
HE WASN'T REFUSING!





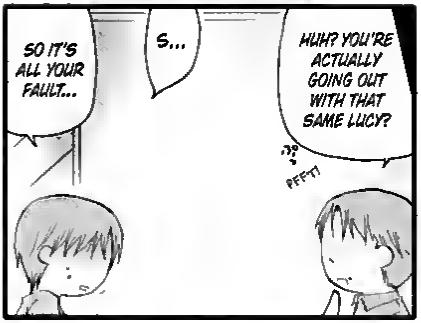
NO WAY

FATHER'S MEMORY

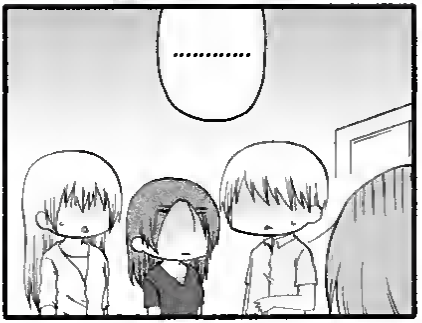


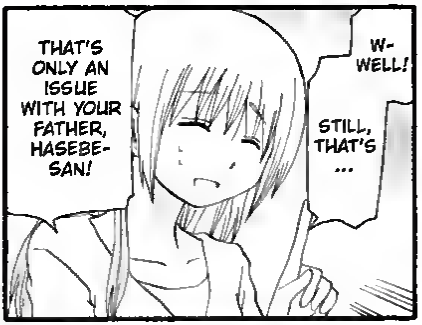
WHAT WAS IT...?
I THINK THAT WAS HER NAME.
YAMAGAMI...LUCY KIMIKO AKIE AIRI SHIORI RINNE YOSHIHO CHIHOKO AYANO TOMIKA CHISATO SANAE MIKIKO ICHIKA YUKINO (ETC.)...
ぶはっ
PFTOO

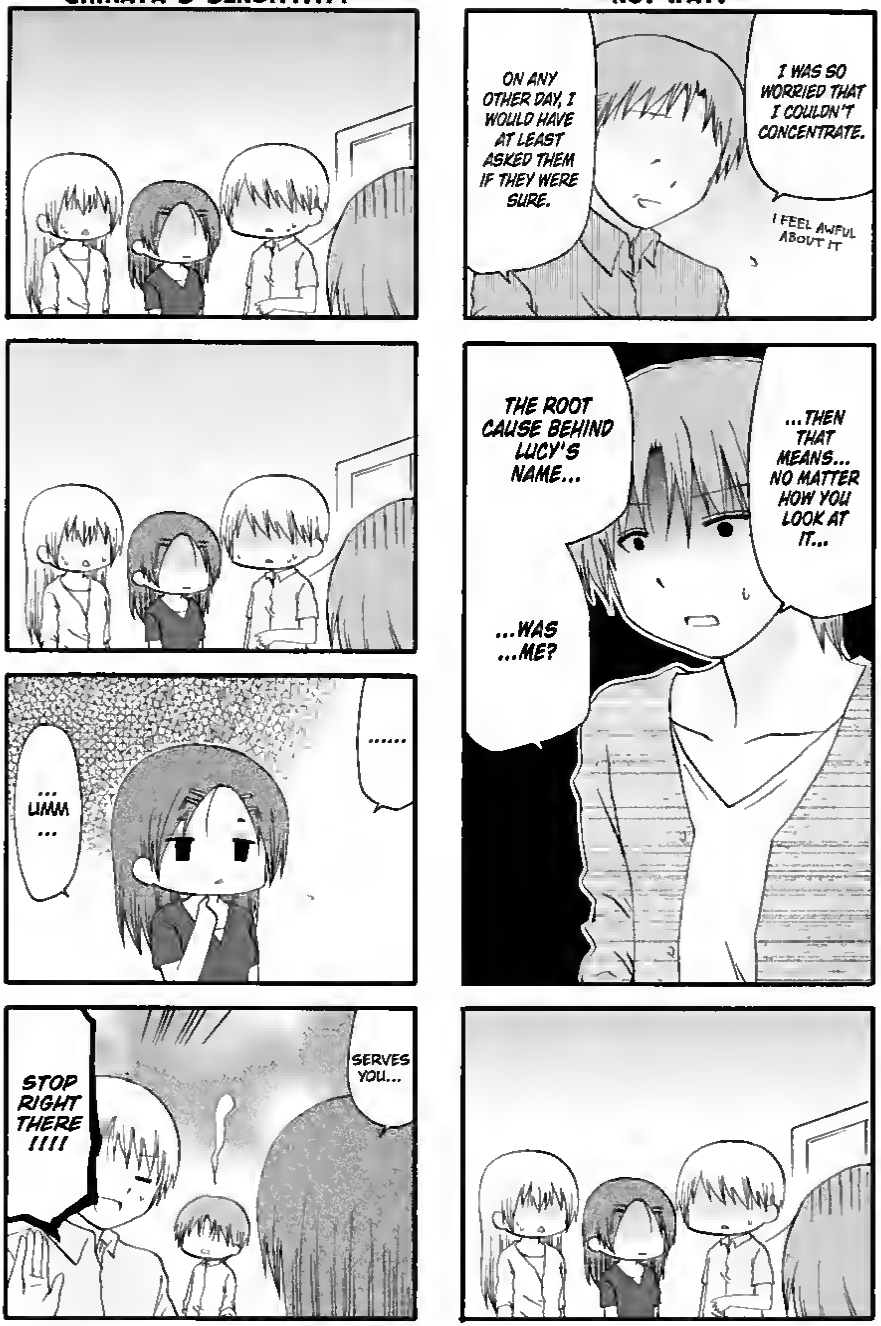
FATHER'S EXCUSE

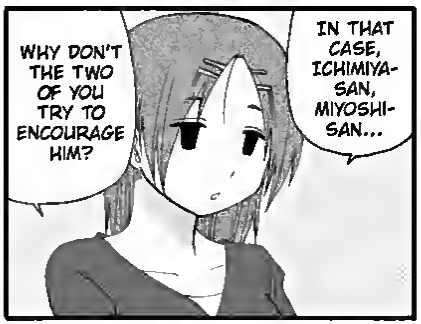


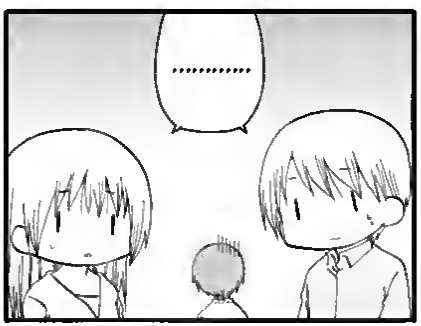
THE ROOT CAUSE

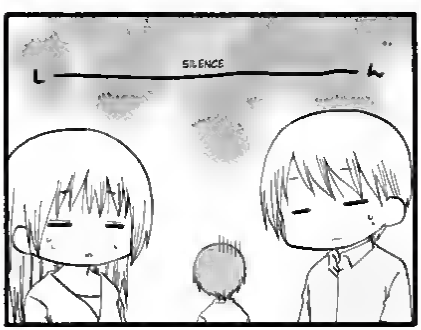





CHIHAYA'S SENSITIVITY
NO. WAY.
ON ANY OTHER DAY, I WOULD HAVE AT LEAST ASKED THEM IF THEY WERE SURE.
I WAS SO WORRIED THAT I COULDN'T CONCENTRATE.
I FEEL AWFUL ABOUT IT
THE ROOT CAUSE BEHIND LUCY'S NAME...
...WAS ...ME?
...THEN THAT MEANS... NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT...
.....
... UMM ...
STOP RIGHT THERE !!!!
SERVES YOU...

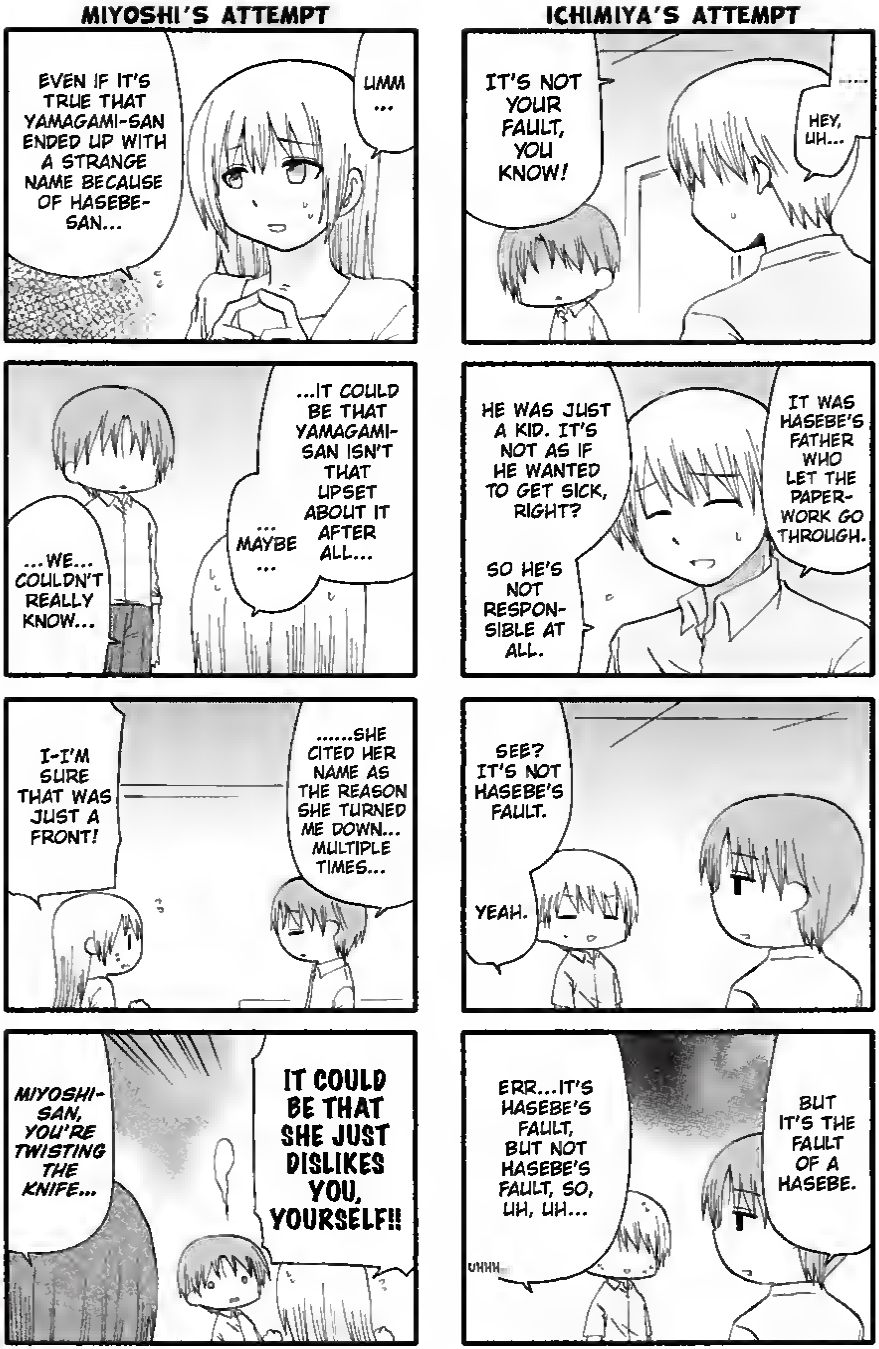




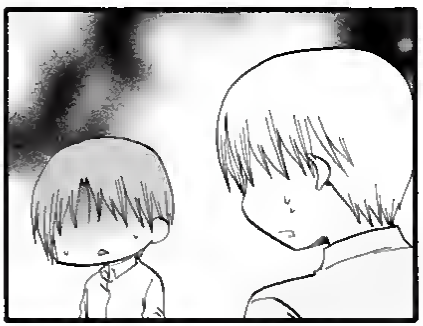


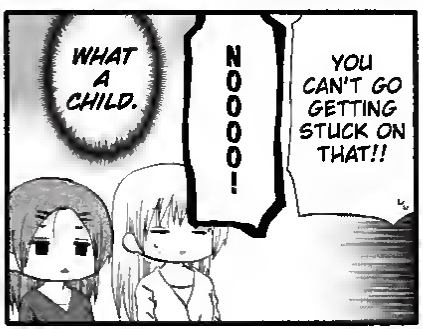
SERVANT×SERVICE

WORK:53

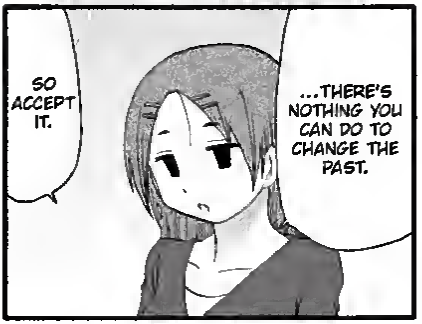

MIYOSHI'S ATTEMPT
EVEN IF IT'S TRUE THAT YAMAGAMI-SAN ENDED UP WITH A STRANGE NAME BECAUSE OF HASEBE-SAN...
UMM ...
...IT COULD BE THAT YAMAGAMI-SAN ISN'T THAT UPSET ABOUT IT AFTER ALL....
... MAYBE ...
...WE... COULDN'T REALLY KNOW...
I-I'M SURE THAT WAS JUST A FRONT!
.....SHE CITED HER NAME AS THE REASON SHE TURNED ME DOWN... MULTIPLE TIMES...
MIYOSHI-SAN, YOU'RE TWISTING THE KNIFE...
IT COULD BE THAT SHE JUST DISLIKES YOU, YOURSELF!!
ICHIMIYA'S ATTEMPT
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, YOU KNOW!
.....
HEY, UH...
HE WAS JUST A KID. IT'S NOT AS IF HE WANTED TO GET SICK, RIGHT?
SO HE'S NOT RESPON-SIBLE AT ALL.
IT WAS HASEBE'S FATHER WHO LET THE PAPER-WORK GO THROUGH.
SEE? IT'S NOT HASEBE'S FAULT.
YEAH.
ERR...IT'S HASEBE'S FAULT, BUT NOT HASEBE'S FAULT, SO, UH, UH...
UHHH...
BUT IT'S THE FAULT OF A HASEBE.

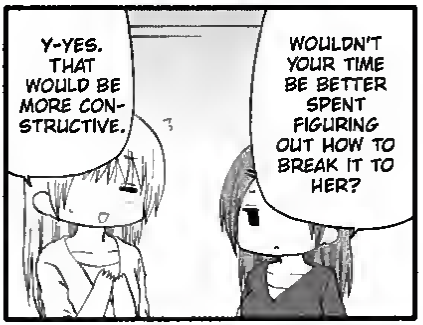
WHY HE CAN'T TELL HER

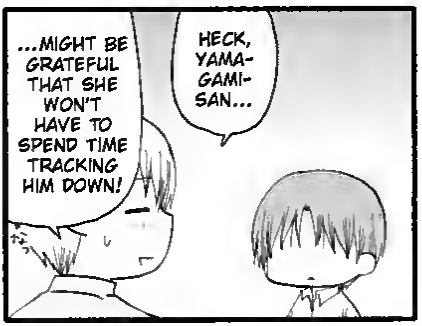




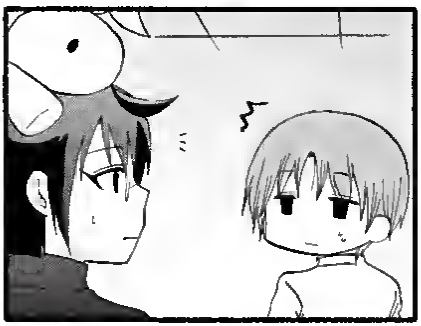
HASEBE'S DETERMINATION



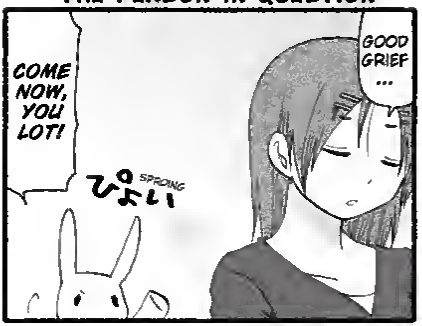


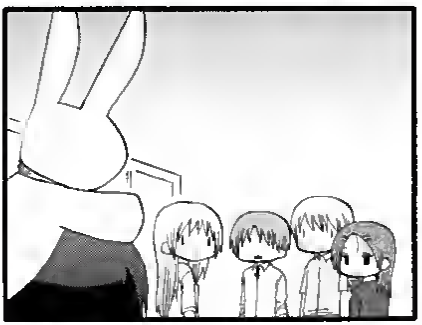


SHOCK

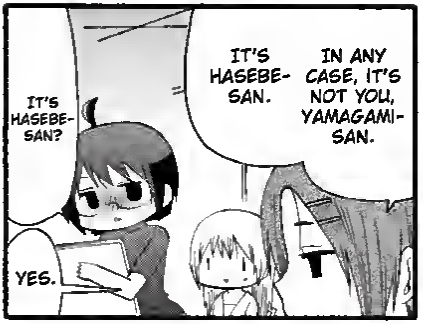


THE PERSON IN QUESTION

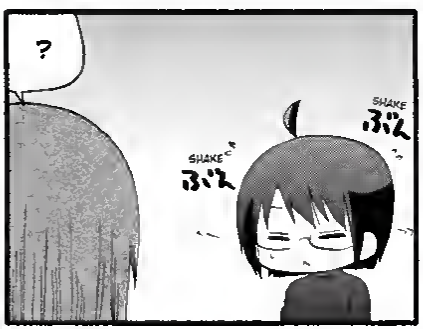




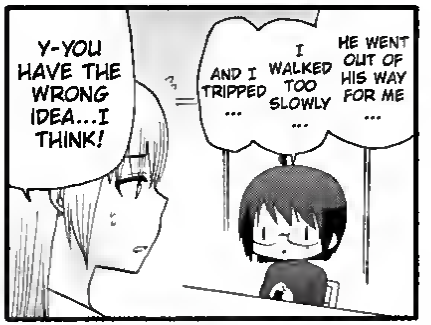
RINGS A BELL



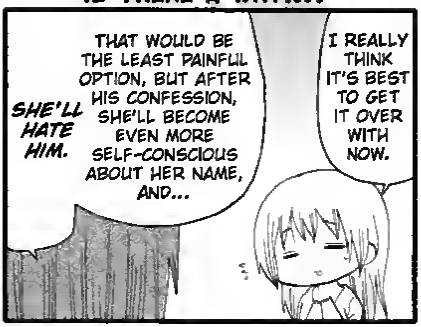
HE'S PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS TO WOO YOU, AND THEN WHEN YOU'VE FALLEN FOR HIM AND HE FINALLY HAS HIS CONQUEST, YOU'LL BE OLD NEWS TO HIM.
.....



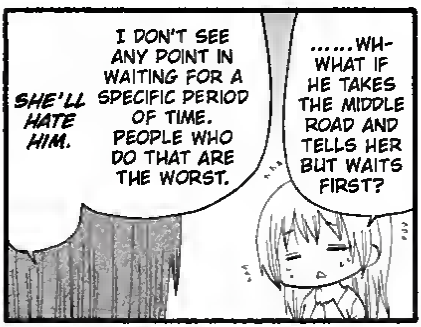
PROOF OF EFFORT

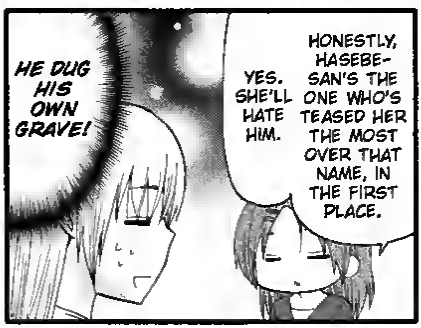


IS THERE A WAY...?

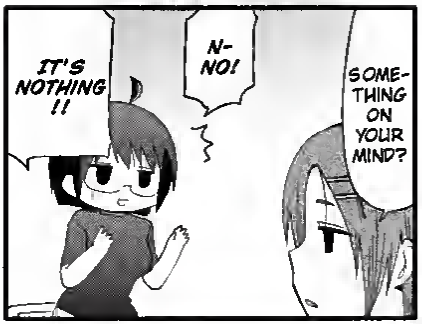

THAT WOULD BE THE LEAST PAINFUL OPTION, BUT AFTER HIS CONFESSION, SHE'LL BECOME EVEN MORE SELF-CONSCIOUS ABOUT HER NAME, AND...
SHE'LL HATE HIM.
I REALLY THINK IT'S BEST TO GET IT OVER WITH NOW.

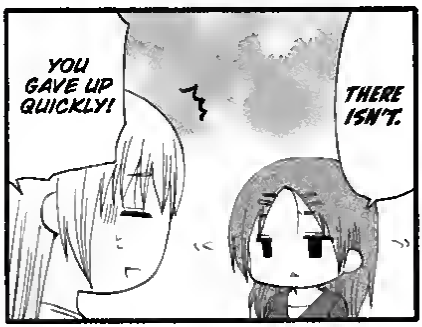
THINGS ARE ALREADY THIS AWKWARD BETWEEN THEM AFTER HALF A DAY OF KEEPING IT SECRET. HE COULDN'T HOLD IT IN FOREVER. IN THE END, WHEN SHE FINDS OUT THAT HE HID IT FROM HER...
SHE'LL HATE HIM.
TH-THEN HE COULD KEEP IT A SECRET FOREVER?

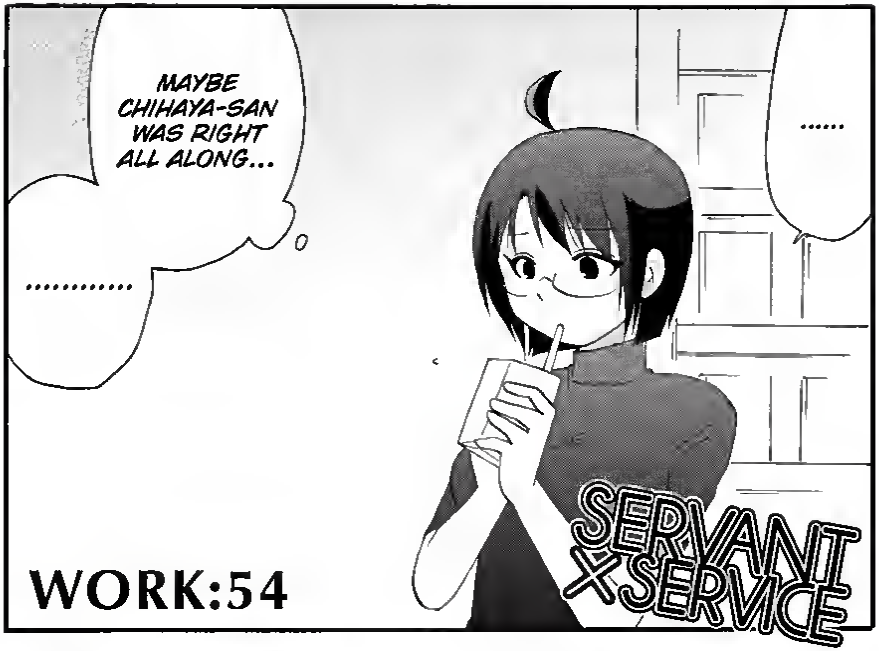

I DON'T SEE ANY POINT IN WAITING FOR A SPECIFIC PERIOD OF TIME. PEOPLE WHO DO THAT ARE THE WORST.
SHE'LL HATE HIM.
.....WH-WHAT IF HE TAKES THE MIDDLE ROAD AND TELLS HER BUT WAITS FIRST?


HE DUG HIS OWN GRAVE!
YES. SHE'LL HATE HIM.
HONESTLY, HASEBE-SAN'S THE ONE WHO'S TEASED HER THE MOST OVER THAT NAME, IN THE FIRST PLACE.

HAPPY RESOLUTION



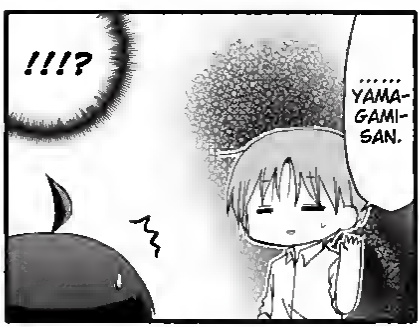



MAYBE CHIHAYA-SAN WAS RIGHT ALL ALONG...
.....
.....
SERVANT × SERVICE

WORK:54

.....YO!
LU...

IT'S PROBABLY.. JUST...YES, IT'S COMMON SENSE THAT YOU CAN'T ACT THE SAME IN THE WORKPLACE AS ON A DATE.
PROBABLY.
SLURP
NO, I SHOULDN'T BE DOUBTING HIM LIKE THAT.


!!!?
.....YAMA-GAMI-SAN.

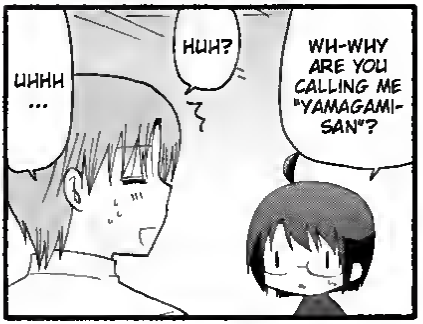
OH!
I'M MERELY READING TOO MUCH INTO IT. HASEBE-SAN IS THE SAME AS ALWAYS.
YES!

?
SHE'S SO CUTE.

HOW DID IT GO?
ERM...
OH! YOU VISITED YOUR PARENTS, CORRECT?

ぐいっ

ARGH !!!!
N-NO! WAIT!
F-FORGET I ASKED! IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS, IS IT...?

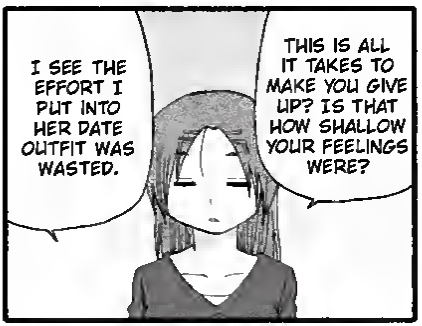

UHHH...
HUH?
WH-WHY ARE YOU CALLING ME "YAMAGAMI-SAN"?

SO I FIGURED I SHOULDN'T USE YOUR FIRST NAME...
YOU KNOW... YOU ALWAYS GET UPSET...

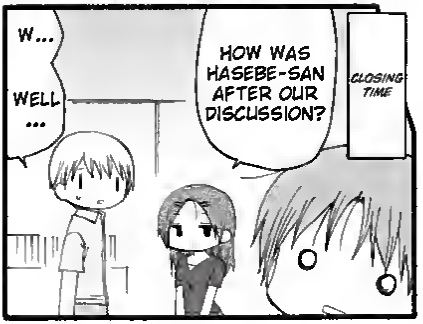
.....
EH? UM...

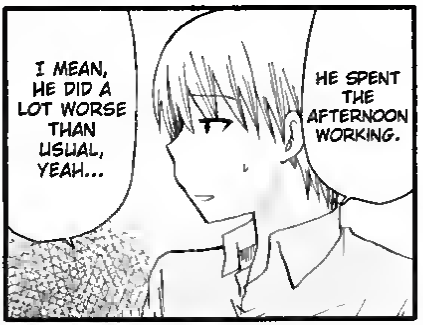
GUH.
IT'S MORE UNNATURAL TO USE MY LAST NAME AT THIS POINT...
PLEASE... CALL ME LUCY...
BLUSH

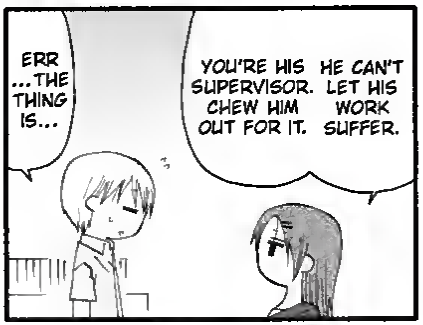
CHEWED OUT


I SEE THE EFFORT I PUT INTO HER DATE OUTFIT WAS WASTED.
THIS IS ALL IT TAKES TO MAKE YOU GIVE UP? IS THAT HOW SHALLOW YOUR FEELINGS WERE?

AS A WORKING ADULT

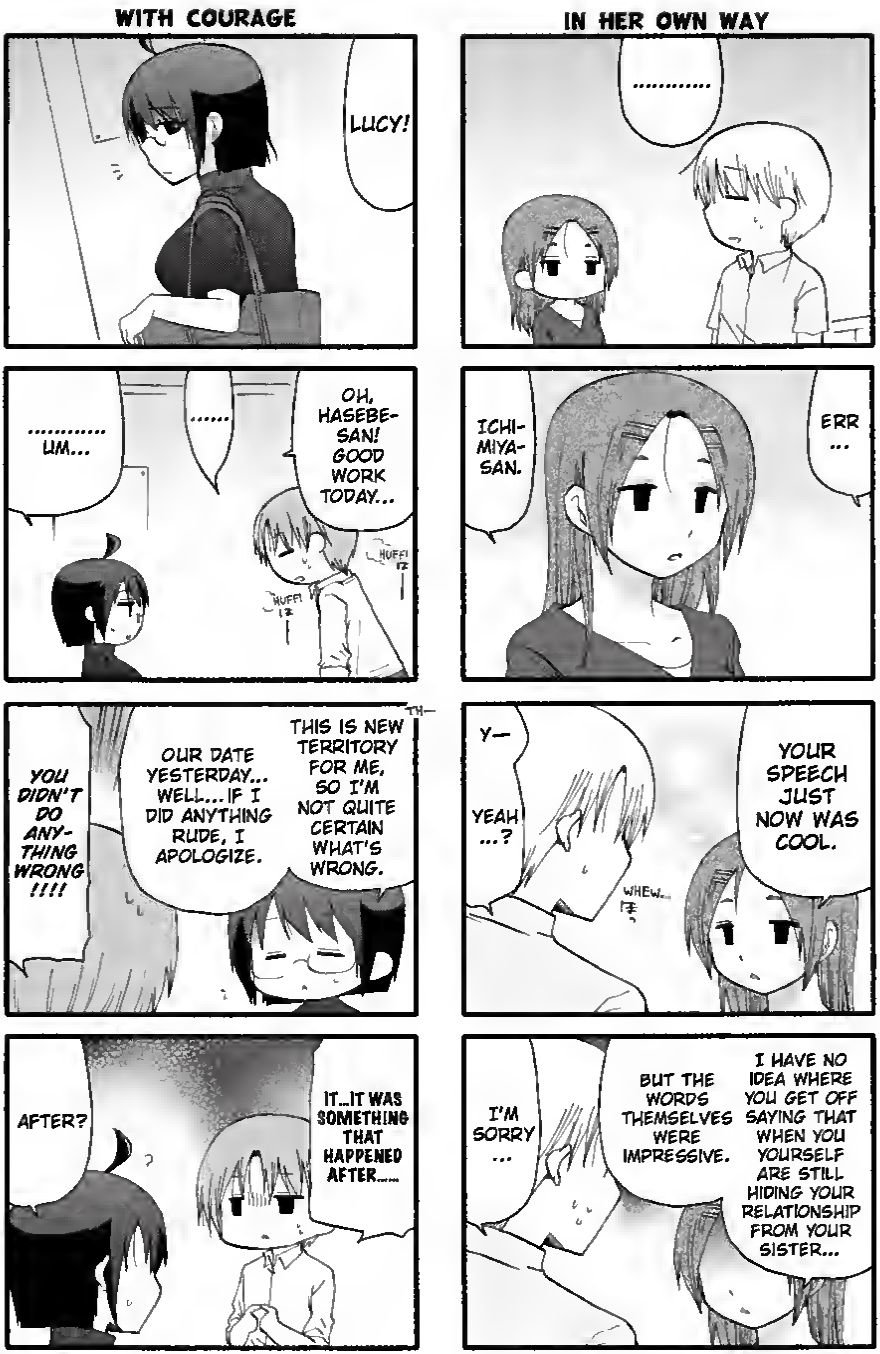




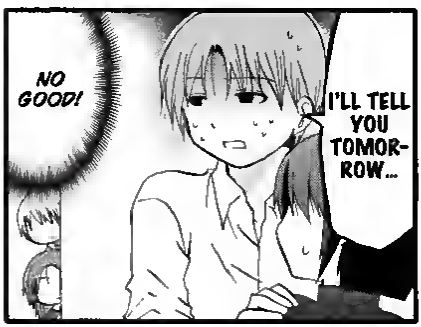


HE WOULD KNOW

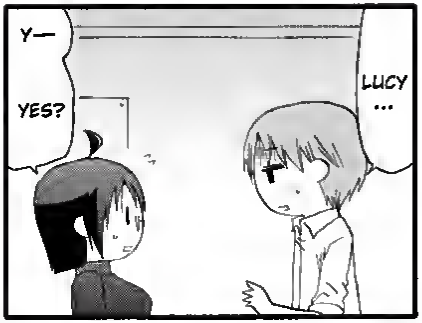
PEP TALK

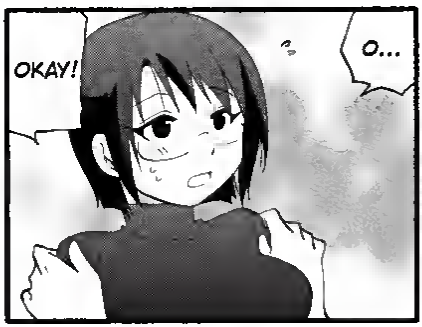

WITH COURAGE
LUCY!
OH, HASEBE-SAN! GOOD WORK TODAY...
..... UM...
HUFF! HUFF!
OUR DATE YESTERDAY... WELL... IF I DID ANYTHING RUDE, I APOLOGIZE.
THIS IS NEW TERRITORY FOR ME, SO I'M NOT QUITE CERTAIN WHAT'S WRONG.
YOU DIDN'T DO ANY-THING WRONG !!!!
AFTER?
IT...IT WAS SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED AFTER.....
IN HER OWN WAY
.....
ICHI-MIYA-SAN.
ERR ...
Y—
YEAH ...?
WHEW...
YOUR SPEECH JUST NOW WAS COOL.
I'M SORRY ...
BUT THE WORDS THEMSELVES WERE IMPRESSIVE.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE YOU GET OFF SAYING THAT WHEN YOU YOURSELF ARE STILL HIDING YOUR RELATIONSHIP FROM YOUR SISTER...

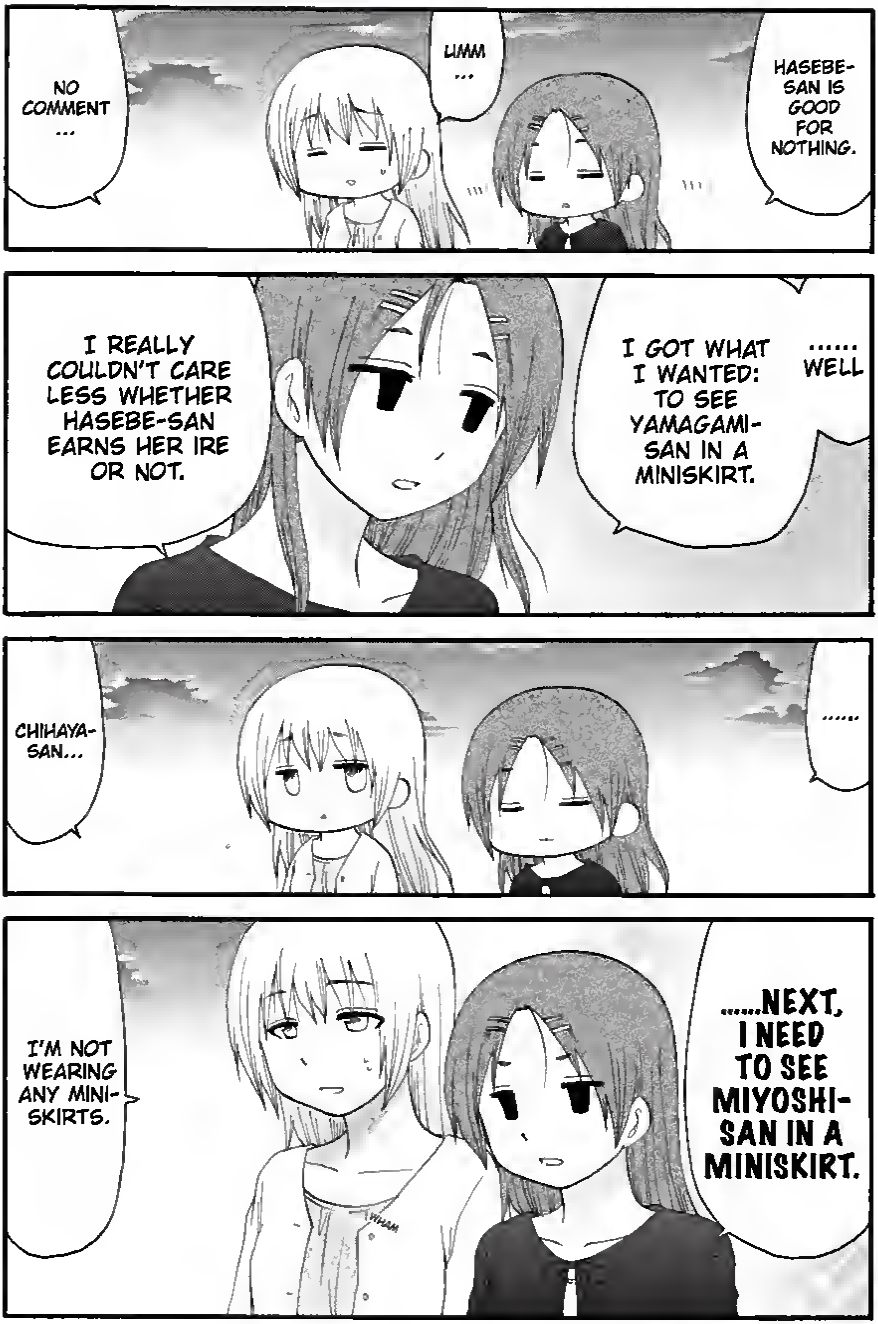
WHAT NEEDS TO BE SAID

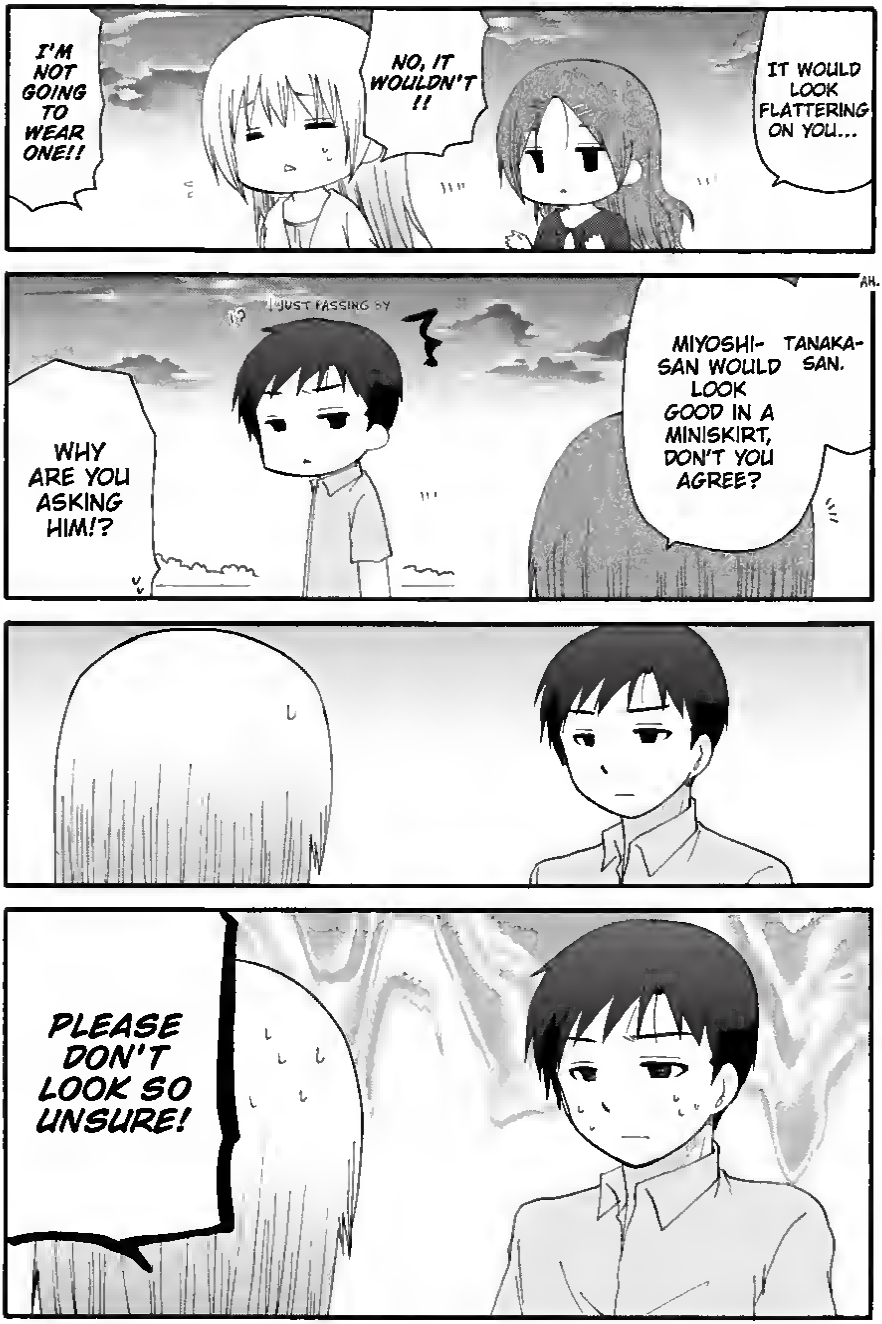


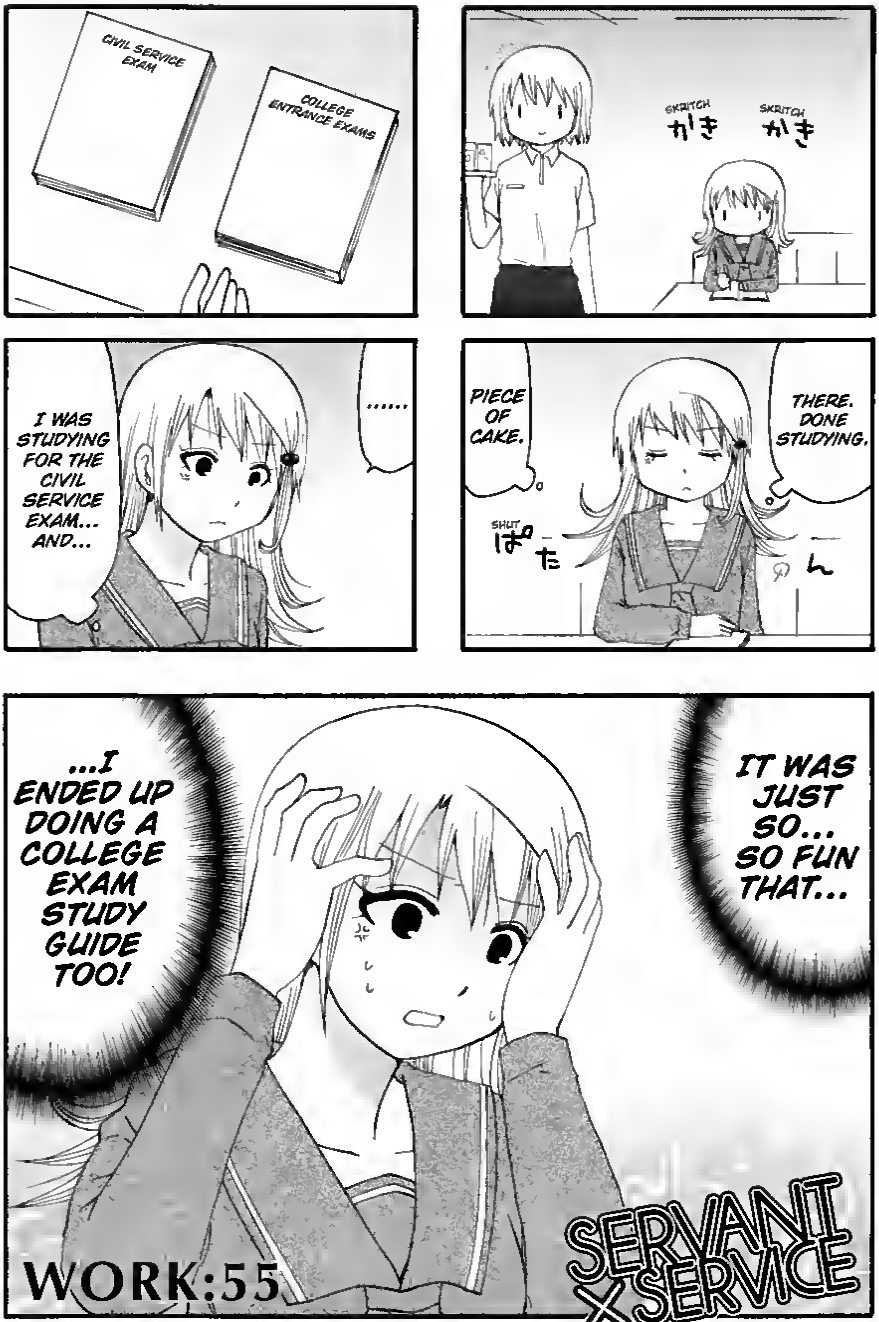
ONE STEP FORWARD





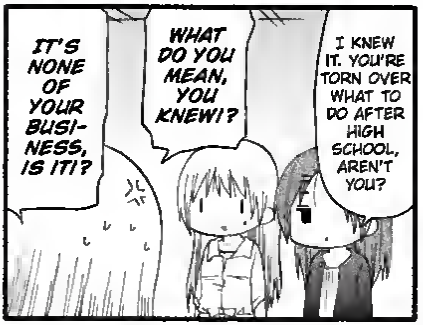

HASEBE-SAN IS GOOD FOR NOTHING.
UMM ...
NO COMMENT ...
..... WELL
I GOT WHAT I WANTED: TO SEE YAMAGAMI-SAN IN A MINISKIRT.
I REALLY COULDN'T CARE LESS WHETHER HASEBE-SAN EARNS HER IRE OR NOT.
.....
CHIHAYA-SAN...
.....NEXT, I NEED TO SEE MIYOSHI-SAN IN A MINISKIRT.
I'M NOT WEARING ANY MINI-SKIRTS.

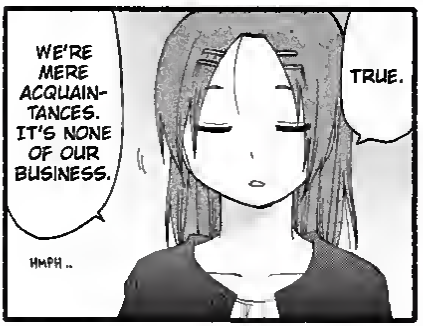

I'M NOT GOING TO WEAR ONE!!
NO, IT WOULDN'T !!
IT WOULD LOOK FLATTERING ON YOU...
I JUST PASSING BY
WHY ARE YOU ASKING HIM!?
MIYOSHI- SAN.
TANAKA-SAN WOULD LOOK GOOD IN A MINISKIRT, DON'T YOU AGREE?
AH.
PLEASE DON'T LOOK SO UNSURE!


CIVIL SERVICE EXAM
COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS
SKRITCH かき
SKRITCH かき
I WAS STUDYING FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE EXAM... AND...
.....
PIECE OF CAKE.
THERE. DONE STUDYING.
SHUT ぱたん
...I ENDED UP DOING A COLLEGE EXAM STUDY GUIDE TOO!
IT WAS JUST SO... SO FUN THAT...
WORK:55
SERVANT×SERVICE

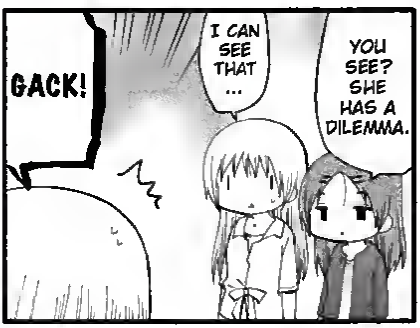
NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO?

WE WERE LEAVING WORK WHEN WE SPOTTED YOU HERE...
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM!?
CHIHA-YA!
MIYO-SHI!
WE THOUGHT WE'D SEE WHAT YOU WERE UP TO

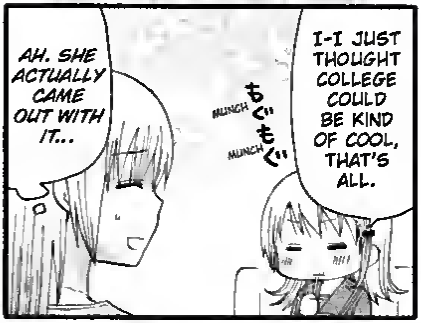


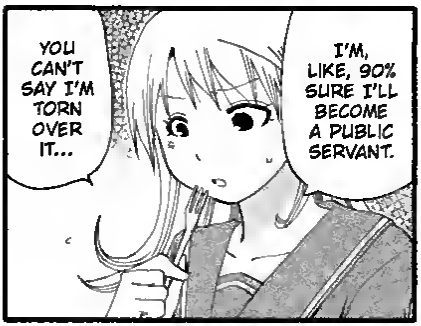


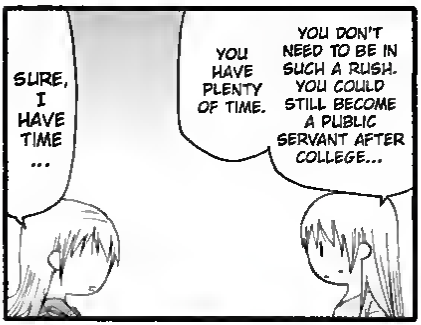
TOUKO'S SECRET

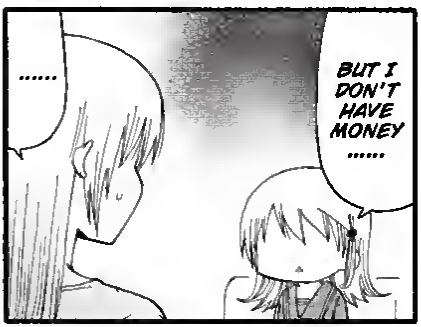


WHAT SHE DOESN'T HAVE

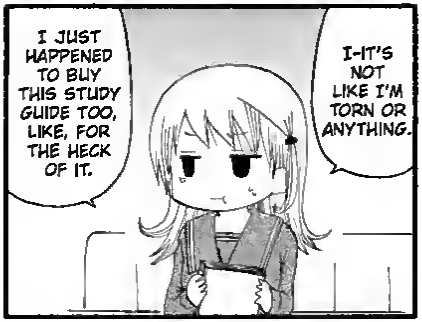


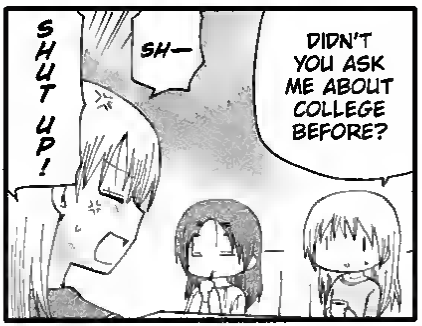


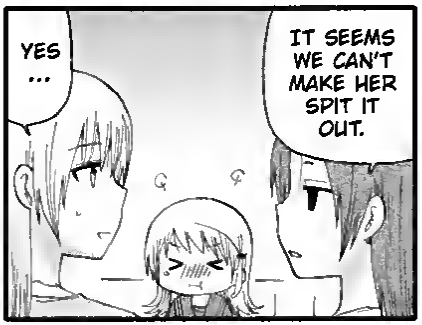

SURE, I HAVE TIME ...
YOU HAVE PLENTY OF TIME.
YOU DON'T NEED TO BE IN SUCH A RUSH. YOU COULD STILL BECOME A PUBLIC SERVANT AFTER COLLEGE...

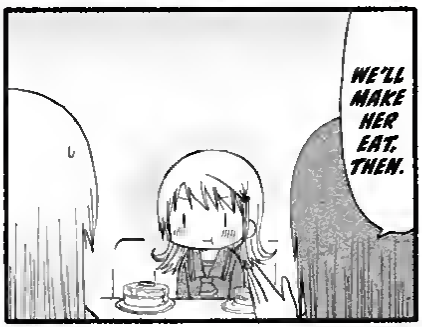


HOW TO GET A MOUTH MOVING

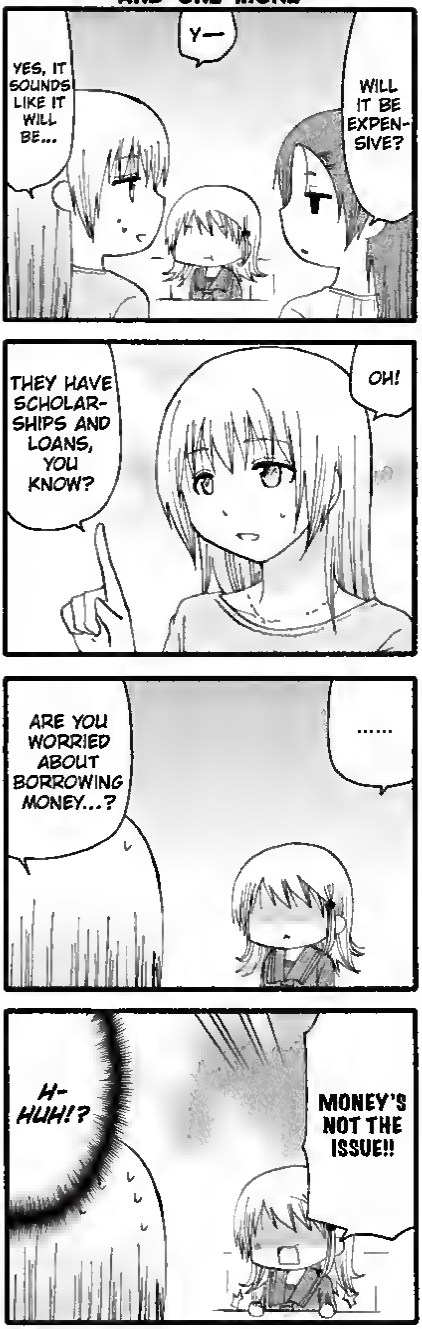




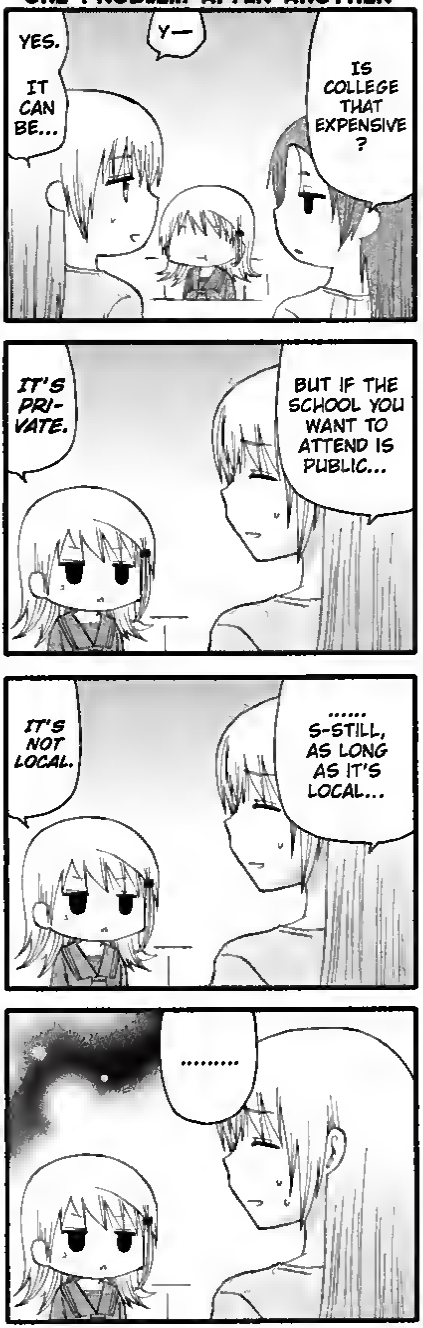


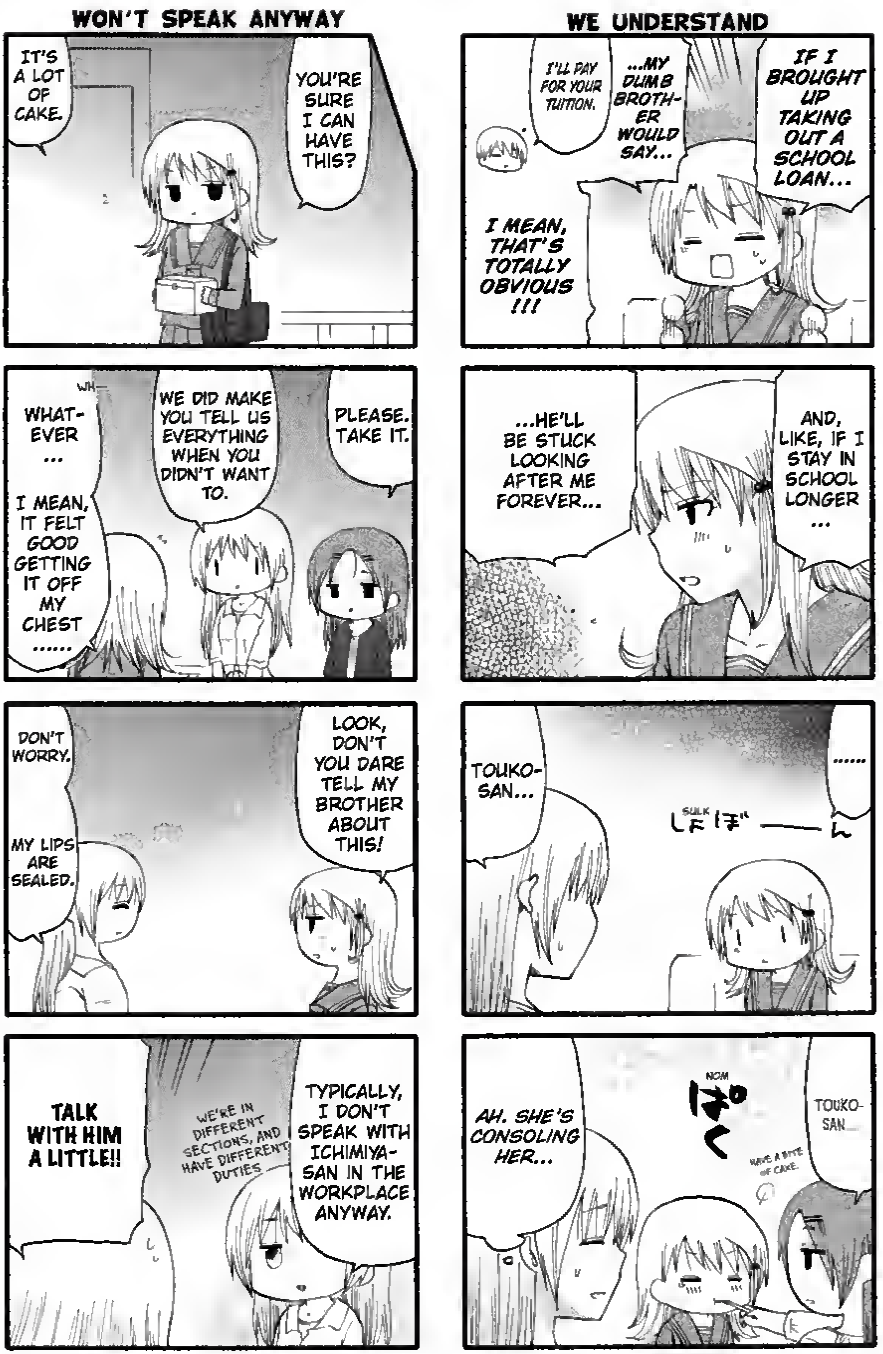


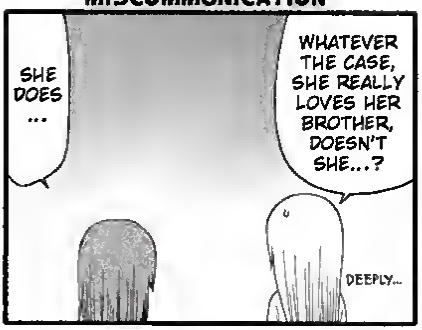
AND ONE MORE



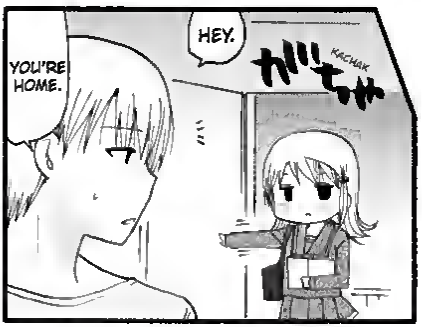
ONE PROBLEM AFTER ANOTHER

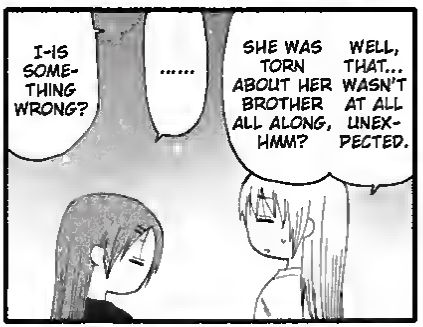

Y—
YES. IT CAN BE...
IS COLLEGE THAT EXPENSIVE?
IT'S PRIVATE.
BUT IF THE SCHOOL YOU WANT TO ATTEND IS PUBLIC...
IT'S NOT LOCAL.
..... S-STILL, AS LONG AS IT'S LOCAL...
.....


WON'T SPEAK ANYWAY
IT'S A LOT OF CAKE.
YOU'RE SURE I CAN HAVE THIS?
WHAT-EVER ...
I MEAN, IT FELT GOOD GETTING IT OFF MY CHEST .....
WE DID MAKE YOU TELL US EVERYTHING WHEN YOU DIDN'T WANT TO.
PLEASE. TAKE IT.
DON'T WORRY.
MY LIPS ARE SEALED.
LOOK, DON'T YOU DARE TELL MY BROTHER ABOUT THIS!
TALK WITH HIM A LITTLE!!
WE'RE IN DIFFERENT SECTIONS, AND HAVE DIFFERENT DUTIES
TYPICALLY, I DON'T SPEAK WITH ICHIMIYA-SAN IN THE WORKPLACE ANYWAY.
WE UNDERSTAND
I'LL PAY FOR YOUR TUITION.
...MY DUMB BROTH-ER WOULD SAY...
IF I BROUGHT UP TAKING OUT A SCHOOL LOAN...
I MEAN, THAT'S TOTALLY OBVIOUS !!!
...HE'LL BE STUCK LOOKING AFTER ME FOREVER...
AND, LIKE, IF I STAY IN SCHOOL LONGER ...
TOUKO-SAN...
.....
SULK しょぼーん
AH. SHE'S CONSOLING HER...
NOM ぱくっ
TOUKO-SAN...
HAVE A BITE OF CAKE.

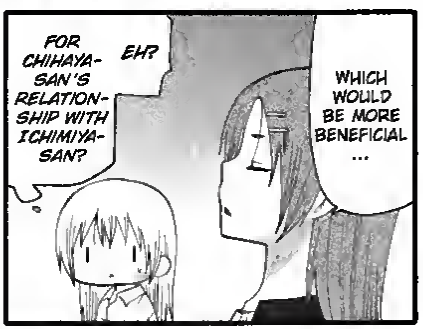

MISCOMMUNICATION
SHE DOES ...
WHATEVER THE CASE, SHE REALLY LOVES HER BROTHER, DOESN'T SHE...?
DEEPLY...

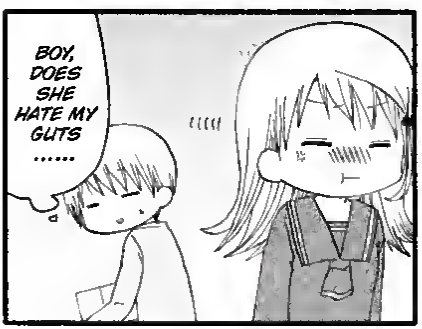
BENEFICIAL TO HER
OKAY.
YOU KEEP QUIET TOO, CHIHAYA!
BYE!!

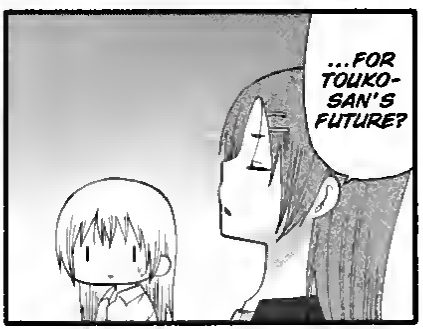

YOU'RE HOME.
HEY.
KACHAK


I-IS SOMETHING WRONG?
.....
SHE WAS TORN ABOUT HER BROTHER ALL ALONG, HMM?
WELL, THAT... WASN'T AT ALL UNEXPECTED.

WHACK
OOF
YOU'RE A LITTLE LATE TODAY—
SHUT UP!

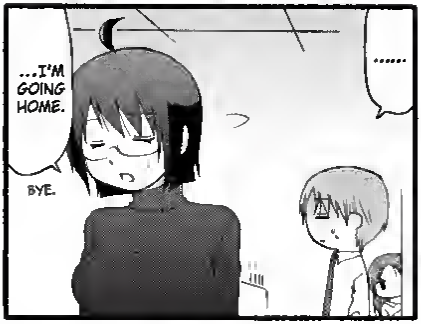

FOR CHIHAYA-SAN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH ICHIMIYA-SAN?
EH?
WHICH WOULD BE MORE BENEFICIAL ...

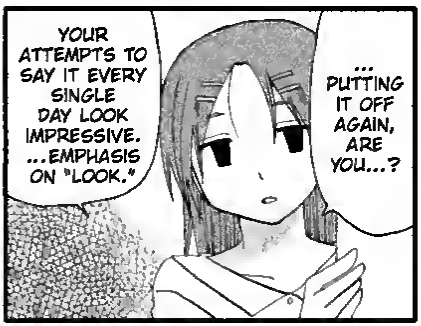

BOY, DOES SHE HATE MY GUTS .....

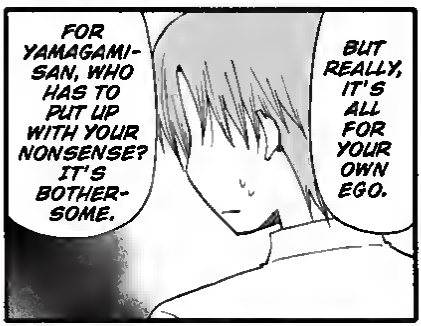

...FOR TOUKO-SAN'S FUTURE?

.....
LUCY!
HASE-BE-SAN.
...
...I NEED TO TELL YOU!!
THERE'S SOME-THING ...
SERVANT X SERVICE
YUP.
YOU'LL TELL ME TOMORROW, THEN?
WORK:56

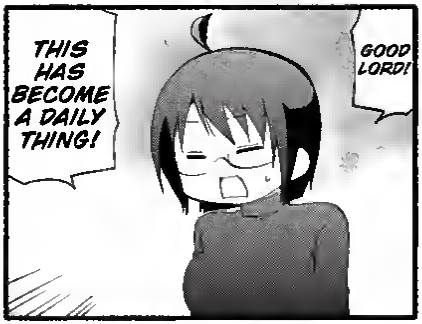
NO HOPE OF IMPROVING

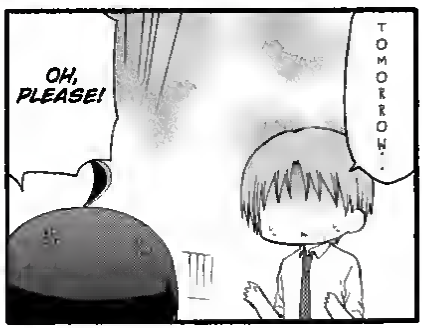


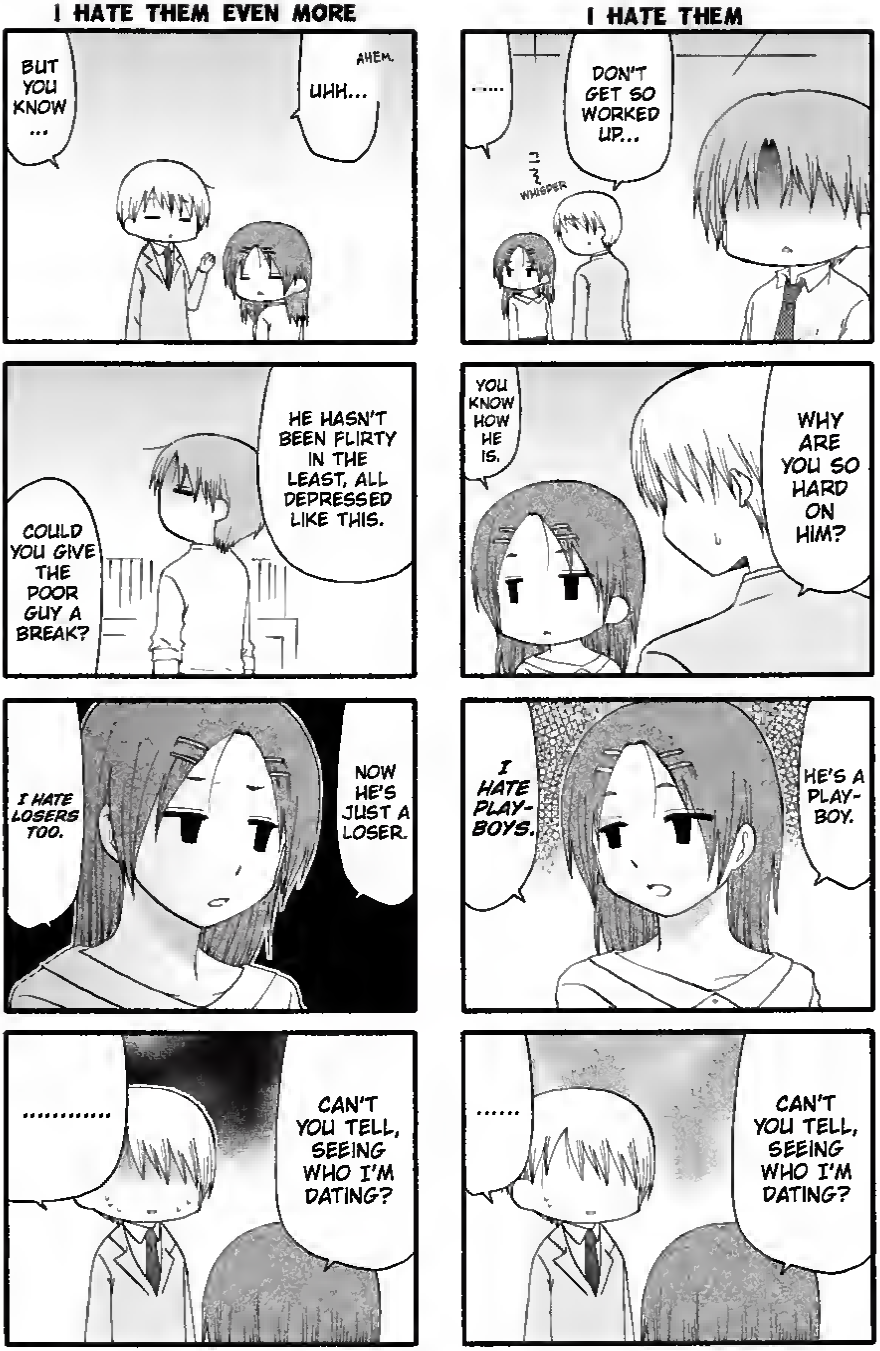




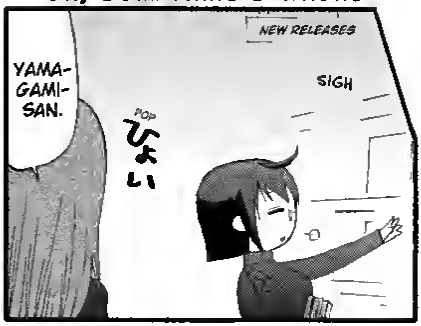
CYCLING DAYS

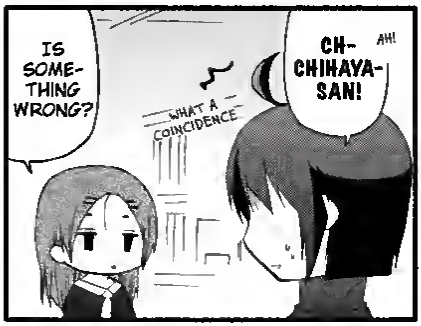


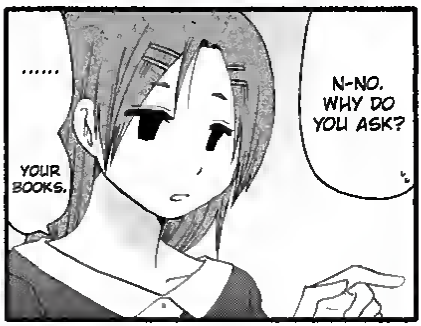



I HATE THEM EVEN MORE
BUT YOU KNOW ...
AHEM. UHH...
HE HASN'T BEEN FLIRTY IN THE LEAST, ALL DEPRESSED LIKE THIS.
COULD YOU GIVE THE POOR GUY A BREAK?
I HATE LOSERS TOO.
NOW HE'S JUST A LOSER.
.....
CAN'T YOU TELL, SEEING WHO I'M DATING?
I HATE THEM
..... DON'T GET SO WORKED UP...
WHISPER
YOU KNOW HOW HE IS.
WHY ARE YOU SO HARD ON HIM?
I HATE PLAY-BOYS.
HE'S A PLAY-BOY.
.....
CAN'T YOU TELL, SEEING WHO I'M DATING?

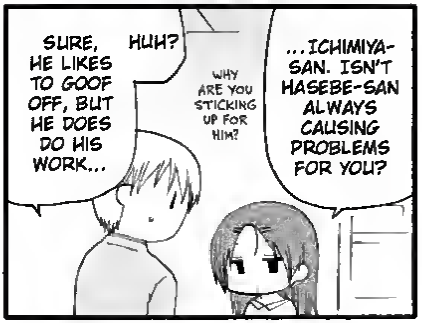
OH, SOMETHING'S WRONG

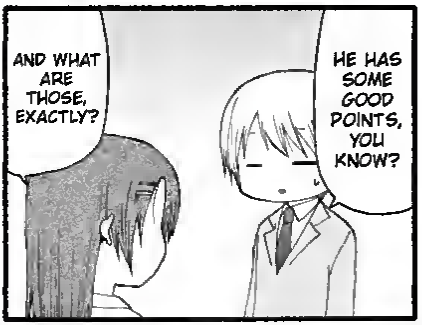






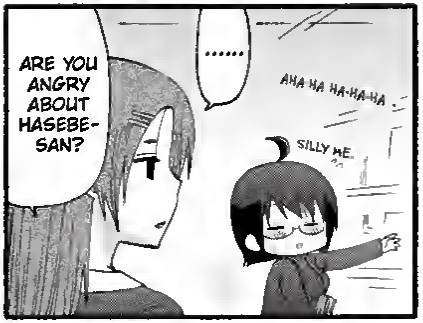
SOMETHING TO APPRECIATE

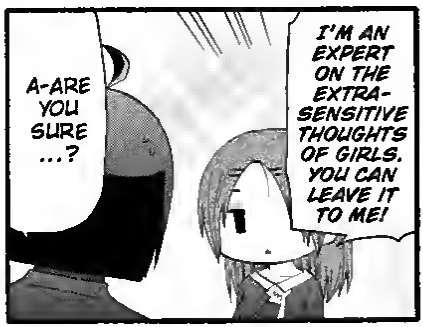

SURE, HE LIKES TO GOOF OFF, BUT HE DOES DO HIS WORK...
HUH?
WHY ARE YOU STICKING UP FOR HIM?
...ICHIMIYA-SAN. ISN'T HASEBE-SAN ALWAYS CAUSING PROBLEMS FOR YOU?



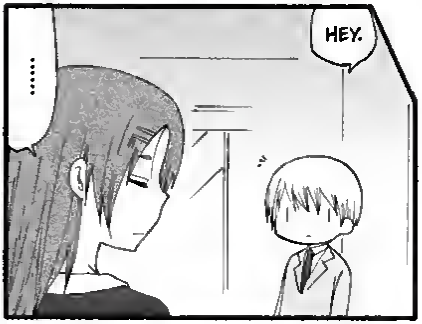
HER COMMENT

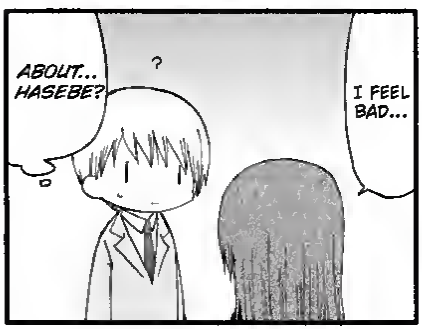
HER TIME TO SHINE



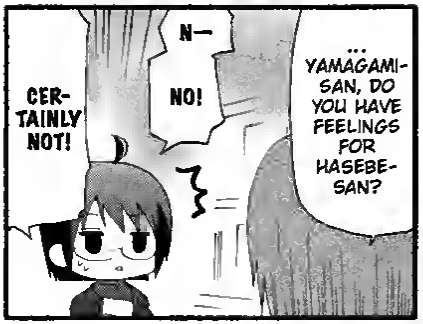


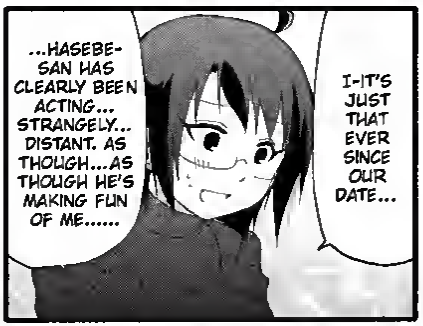
DEEP IN THOUGHT ABOUT...

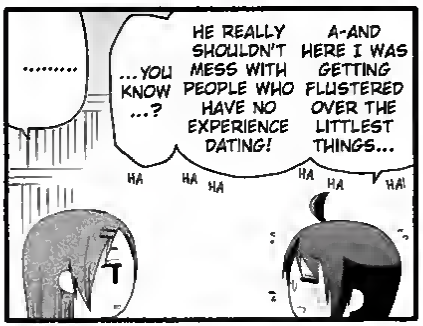




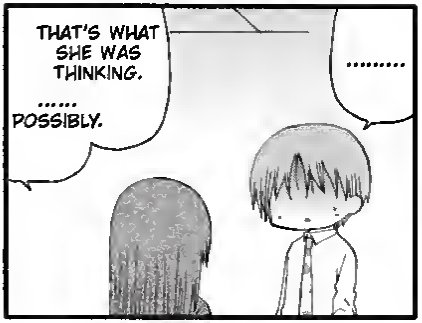
CAN'T FORGET

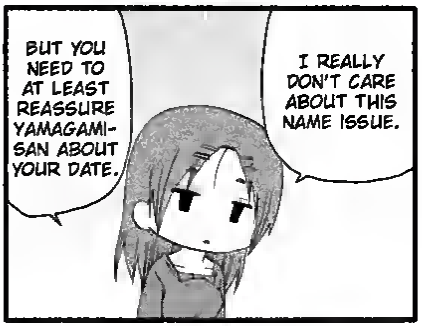


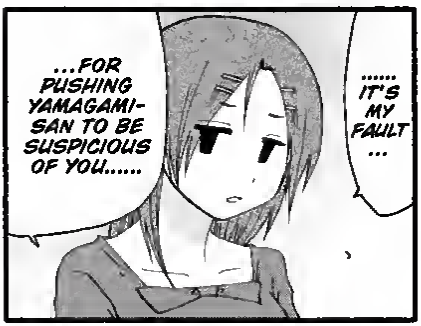

...HASEBE-SAN HAS CLEARLY BEEN ACTING... STRANGELY... DISTANT. AS THOUGH...AS THOUGH HE'S MAKING FUN OF ME.....
I-IT'S JUST THAT EVER SINCE OUR DATE...


.....
...YOU KNOW ...?
HE REALLY SHOULDN'T MESS WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE NO EXPERIENCE DATING!
A-AND HERE I WAS GETTING FLUSTERED OVER THE LITTLEST THINGS...
HA HA HA HA HA HA!

...I NEED TO TELL YOU.
THERE'S SOME-THING ...
LUCY.
... OKAY.
LISTEN ...
YES, HASEBE-SAN?
SHE'S ANSWERING ON AUTOPILOT!
SEE YOU TOMORROW.
GOOD-BYE
YOU'LL TELL ME TOMORROW ?
SERVANT X SERVICE
WORK:57

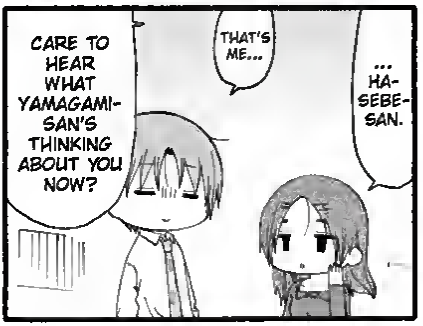

THAT'S WHAT SHE WAS THINKING.
.....
POSSIBLY.
.....

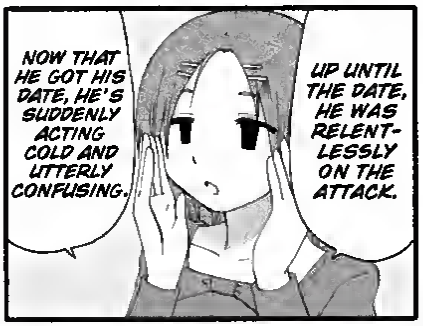

BUT YOU NEED TO AT LEAST REASSURE YAMAGAMI-SAN ABOUT YOUR DATE.
I REALLY DON'T CARE ABOUT THIS NAME ISSUE.

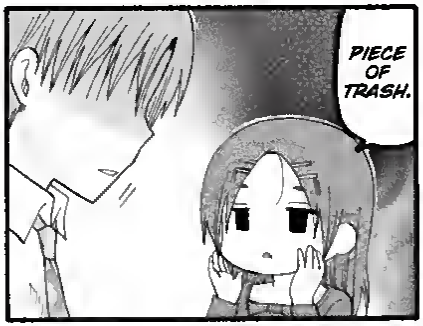

...FOR PUSHING YAMAGAMI-SAN TO BE SUSPICIOUS OF YOU.....
..... IT'S MY FAULT ...

HE ALREADY LEFT.

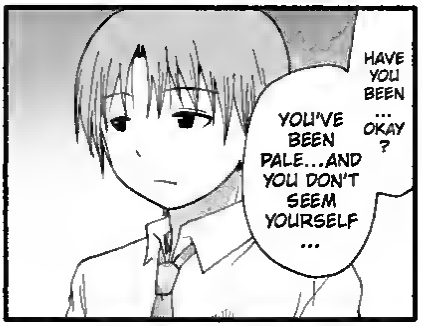
.....
SIGH.

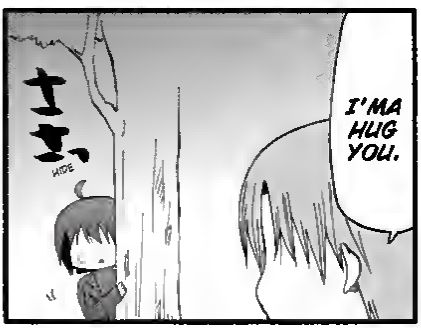

CARE TO HEAR WHAT YAMAGAMI-SAN'S THINKING ABOUT YOU NOW?
THAT'S ME...
...HASEBE-SAN.


NOW THAT HE GOT HIS DATE, HE'S SUDDENLY ACTING COLD AND UTTERLY CONFUSING.
UP UNTIL THE DATE, HE WAS RELENTLESSLY ON THE ATTACK.


PIECE OF TRASH.

OUT OF ENDURANCE

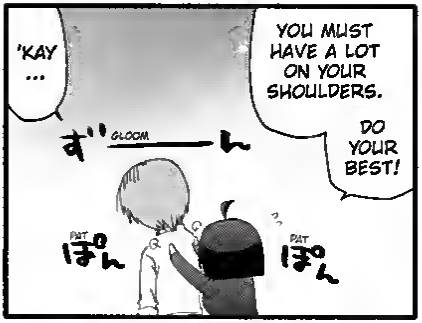


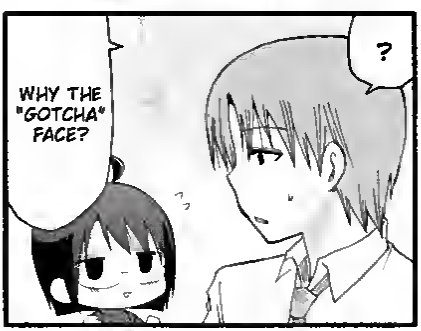


A GENIUS'S TRUE ABILITIES

EXPLOSION OF ANGER
HER EXCUSE
... I'M ...
I...
WHAT IS YOUR PROBLEM? I'M GETTING ANGRY!!
WHAT !?
P...
PLEASE STOP!!
HUH !!?
I'M SERIOUS ABOUT YOU!
I'M NOT PLAYING AROUND HERE!!
GOING FROM DOING FLIRTY THINGS EVERY DAY, TO NOT AT ALL...
SAYING THINGS LIKE THAT...
ASKING ME OUT...
O— OH ...
THAT'S WHAT'S MAKING THIS DIFFICULT !!
...THEN PLEASE DO IT WITH A WOMAN WHO CAN HANDLE IT BETTER.
IF YOU MUST PLAY GAMES ...
G—
GETTING ANGRY AT ME ISN'T GOING TO HELP!!
WHAT GIVES !?
TWITCH
むかー
NO WAY.

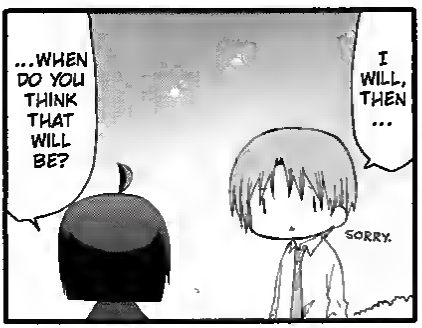
WHY ME?

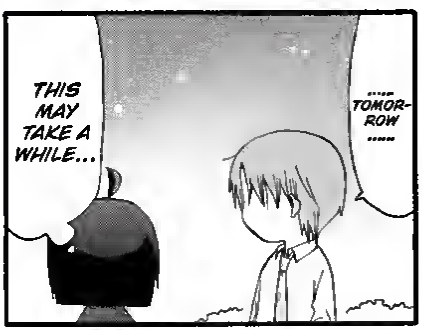




DAY OF RECKONING

WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE HONESTLY READY TO SAY IT.
PLEASE STOP TELLING ME YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL ME EVERY SINGLE DAY.
F-FINE ...BUT ...
IT MAKES ME NERVOUS EVERY TIME.

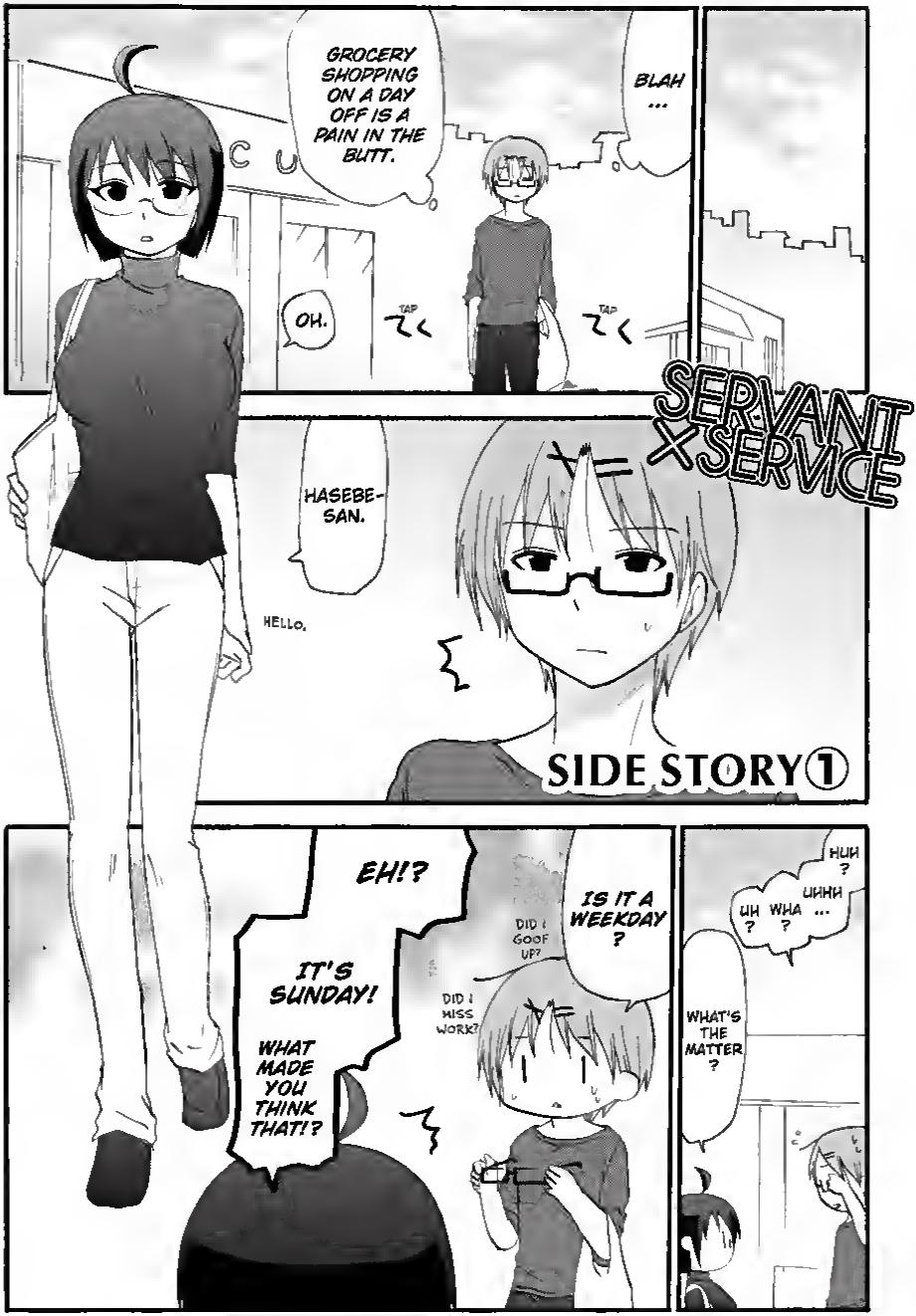




DEEP-ROOTED
I—
I WAS TRYING TO CHEER YOU UP, ACTUALLY ...
.....
CLASP
OH YEAH... SO THIS IS LUCY'S CURSE...
SORRY ...
SHAKE
SHAKE
O-OH.
UMM ...
UNDO IT ...
SHAKE
SHAKE
I—
I CAN'T !
UNDO !!!T !!!!
CAME BACK TO BITE
UH-HUH.
?
...YOU WOULD TALK ABOUT HOW YOU WERE BORED WITH LIFE.
WHEN WE WERE STILL NEW HIRES...
...CAST THAT MAGIC SPELL ON YOU, REMEMBER ?
MAY YOU HENCEFORTH BE STRESSED TO DEATH WITH PROBLEMS!
AND I...
ISN'T THAT GREAT !?
IT WORKED !!

COME ON, LUCY.
YOU'VE GOT, LIKE, SOME KINDA SPIRITUAL POWER, RIGHT?
GOOD GRIEF
I DO NOT!
WORD ON THE STREET IS, THAT PARK WE SAT IN IS HAUNTED. DIDJA SEE ANY GHOSTS?
HA HA HA.
JK. FORGET ABOUT THE DEAD. THERE WEREN'T EVEN ANY OTHER LIVING PEEPS THERE!
HUH?
BUT THERE WAS SOMEONE SITTING ON THE BENCH NEXT TO US.
HUH?
HUH?

THE FOLLOWING PAGES DEBUTED AS WEB MANGA.
9:00
13:00
20:00
I SENT OUR INDOOR CIVIL SERVANTS INTO THE OUTSIDE WORLD.
THE DAY'S ALREADY OVER!!
HUH!?
23:00


GROCERY SHOPPING ON A DAY OFF IS A PAIN IN THE BUTT.
BLAH ...
OH.
TAP
TAP
SERVANT X SERVICE
HASEBE-SAN.
HELLO.
SIDE STORY①
EH!?
IT'S SUNDAY!
WHAT MADE YOU THINK THAT!?
DID I GOOF UP?
DID I MISS WORK?
IS IT A WEEKDAY?
HUH?
UHHH ...
UH WHA?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?

IT'S JUST, UH, YOU'RE WEARING THE EXACT SAME THING YOU WEAR TO WORK...
I-I AM ABSO-LUTELY NOT!!
THIS OUTFIT IS MORE CASUAL THAN WHAT I WEAR TO WORK!!
... THE MATE-RIAL IS!!
I'M GOING AROUND TO DIFFERENT BOOKSTORES LOOKING FOR A NEW RELEASE.
IT'S BY A LITTLE-KNOWN AUTHOR, SO I HAVEN'T HAD ANY SUCCESS AS OF YET...
IS IT?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ANYWAY?
DO YOU LIVE NEARBY?
YES, I DO.
COULDA FOOLED ME
BUT I ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO READ IT!
I REFUSE TO GIVE UP! MY BOOKSTORE JOURNEY MUST GO ON!!
RAWR
GURGLE
...YOU SKIPPIN' MEALS AGAIN?

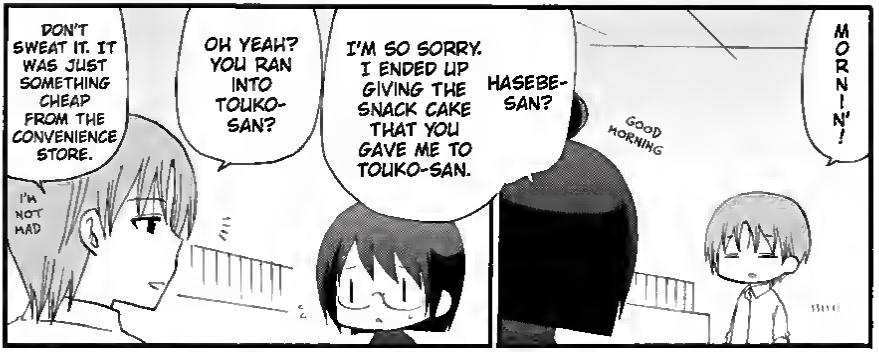
SLOOM
すーー
I JUST BOUGHT THESE. TAKE ONE.
HE GAVE ME A SNACK...
TAP
TAP
.....
!!?
OH, IT'S YOU, YAMAGAMI?
T-TOUKO-SAN?
IT IS NOT A WEEKDAY!! IT'S SUNDAY!!!!
WH—
I—
YOUR CLOTHES!
IS IT A WEEKDAY !?

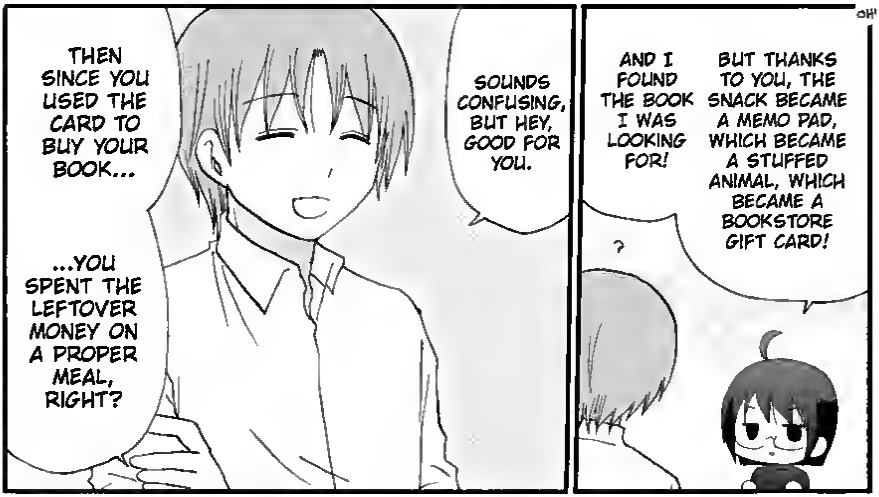
M-MORE IMPORTANTLY, IS SOMETHING WRONG? YOU LOOK SO DOWN...
I—
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M UPSET OR ANYTHING !!
...LIKE, THERE'S THIS STORE WITH THE BEST BAUM-KUCHEN CAKES, RIGHT?
AND, LIKE, USUALLY IT'S TOO EXPENSIVE FOR ME!
BUT SOMETIMES, THEY SELL THE ENDS FOR REALLY CHEAP BECAUSE THEY CAN'T SELL THEM FROM THE CAKE CASE!!
BAUMKUCHEN
THESE PARTS
ONLY THEY'RE SO POPULAR THAT YOU HAVE TO LINE UP BEFORE THE STORE OPENS, OR THEY'LL SELL OUT...
O—
OH...
YAK
YAK
YAK
YAK
...BUT I UP AND OVERSLEPT ...
GLOOM
SHE LOOKS SO DISAP-POINTED ...
I WANTED TO EAT BAUM-KUCHEN SO BAD...
OH!
ACTUALLY...
YOU CAN HAVE THIS, IF YOU'D LIKE...
BAUMKUCHEN!!
D-DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA.
IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS THAT DESPERATE TO EAT IT, OKAY?
BUT, LIKE, IF YOU'RE OFFERING, I GUESS I CAN TAKE IT!!

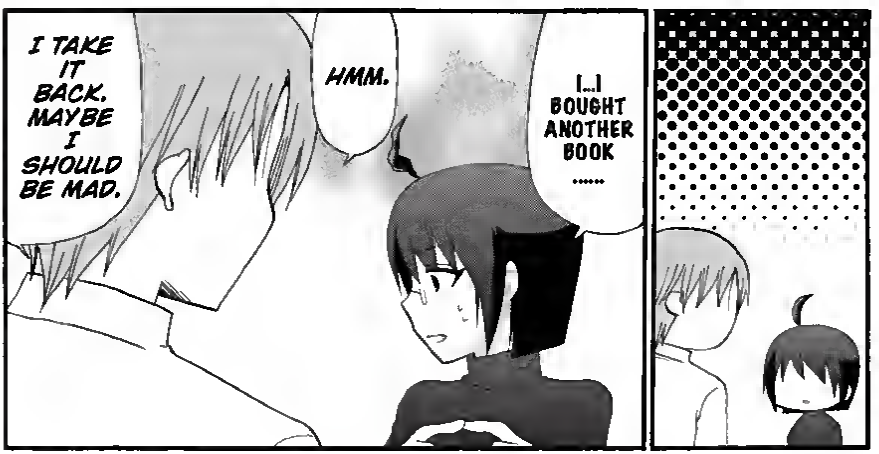
HELLO, TANAKA-SAN.
MY, MY. AREN'T YOU FROM THE PUBLIC SERVICES OFFICE?
WORRY
WORRY
OH.
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE, SO...
I'LL GIVE YOU WHAT I JUST BOUGHT AS A THANK-YOU!
A MEMO PAD AND A BALL-POINT PEN...
I'M ON MY WAY TO VISIT MY GRANDCHILDREN, BUT I'VE GOTTEN MYSELF LOST.
THIS IS THE ADDRESS ...
MAP
OH DEAR ...
THAT'S QUITE A LOT TO CARRY.
ARE YOU GOING SOME-WHERE?
N-NO, I'M NOT.
THOSE CLOTHES ...ARE YOU WORKING TODAY?
THE MIYOSHI-SAN STANDARD ...
MISS... NOT-SAYA-CHAN.
NO, NO, I'LL BE JUST FINE, DEAR.
YOUR MAP WILL DO JUST FINE.
THANK YOU.
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO GO WITH YOU?
OH, I SEE. YOU WANT TO TURN AT THIS ROAD... THEN GO THIS WAY...
SCRIBBLE かき
SCRIBBLE かき

.....
CHIHAYA-SAN!?
YAMA-GAMI-SAN.
I'M RUNNING INTO EVERYONE TODAY..
A STUFFED ANIMAL ...
THAT'S EMBAR-RASSING
IT'S A GIFT FOR MY GRANDCHILD, BUT I HAVE SO MANY, THIS BAG IS TOO HEAVY FOR MY OLD BONES...
LET ME THANK YOU WITH THIS.
I'VE LEARNED THAT LESSON TODAY...
I—
...I CAN'T RECOMMEND WEARING THE SAME CLOTHES ON YOUR DAY OFF AS YOU DO TO WORK...
WHERE DID YOU GET THAT STUFFED ANIMAL ...!!?
?
AHH
はっ

CLAMP
IT'S THE MASCOT FROM THE MAGICAL FLOWERS ANIME! SHE GOES FOR A FORTUNE BECAUSE THEY MADE SO FEW OF HER!!
I-I-I-I-IT IS!?
MY MAGIFURA COSPLAY WOULD BE SO MUCH MORE FAITHFUL IF I HAD THAT STUFFED ANIMAL...
HOW LUCKY...
...COULD I BUY HER OFF OF YOU?
OH, NO! I COULDN'T ASK FOR MONEY. YOU CAN HAVE IT!
I CERTAINLY CAN'T TAKE HER FOR FREE.
BUT ORIGINALLY, I HAD A SNACK, WHICH BECAME THIS STUFFED ANIMAL AFTER A FEW EXCHANGES...
...?
I'M NOT SURE I COMPLETELY FOLLOW, BUT CAN I TRADE YOU SOMETHING FOR HER, THEN?
OH.
THE NEXT DAY

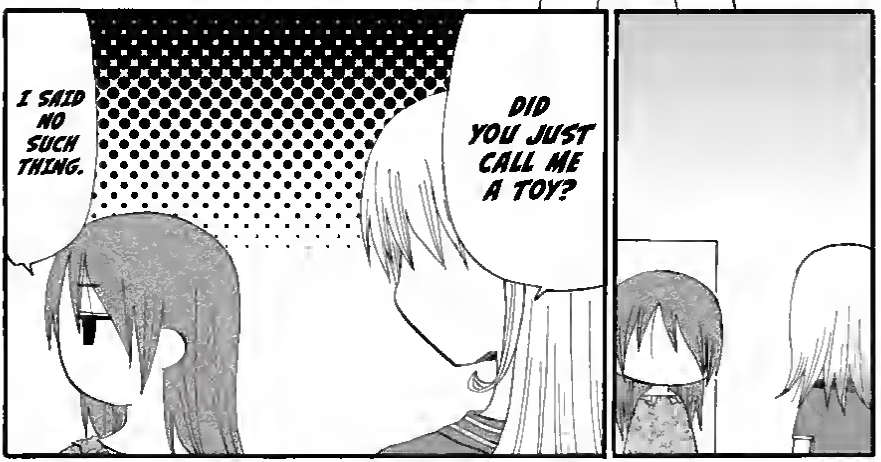

MORNIN'!
GOOD MORNING
HASEBE-SAN?
I'M SO SORRY. I ENDED UP GIVING THE SNACK CAKE THAT YOU GAVE ME TO TOUKO-SAN.
OH YEAH? YOU RAN INTO TOUKO-SAN?
DON'T SWEAT IT. IT WAS JUST SOMETHING CHEAP FROM THE CONVENIENCE STORE.
I'M NOT MAD


OH!
BUT THANKS TO YOU, THE SNACK BECAME A MEMO PAD, WHICH BECAME A STUFFED ANIMAL, WHICH BECAME A BOOKSTORE GIFT CARD!
AND I FOUND THE BOOK I WAS LOOKING FOR!
?
SOUNDS CONFUSING, BUT HEY, GOOD FOR YOU.
THEN SINCE YOU USED THE CARD TO BUY YOUR BOOK...
...YOU SPENT THE LEFTOVER MONEY ON A PROPER MEAL, RIGHT?

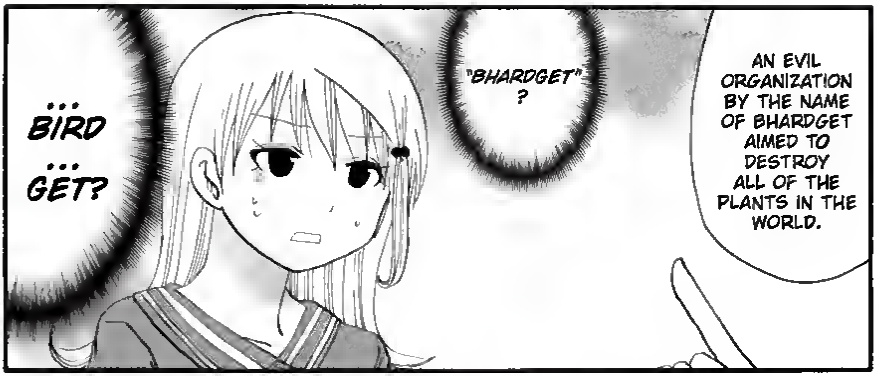

I TAKE IT BACK. MAYBE I SHOULD BE MAD.
HMM.
[...] BOUGHT ANOTHER BOOK .....

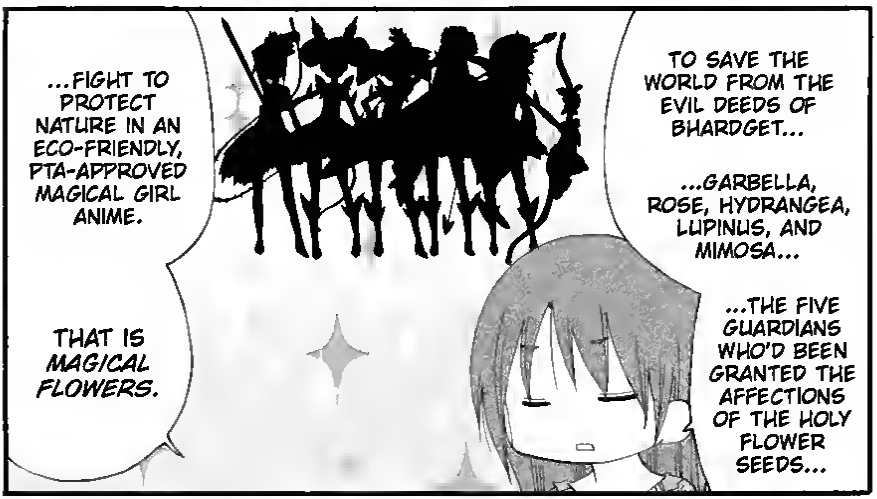
DING-DONG
ぴんぽーん
HELLO?
OH! CHIHAYA?
HELLO.
I WAS BORED, SO I DECIDED TO COME OVER.
KACHK
がちゃ
SERVANT × SERVICE
TO PLAY WITH TOYKO-SAN.

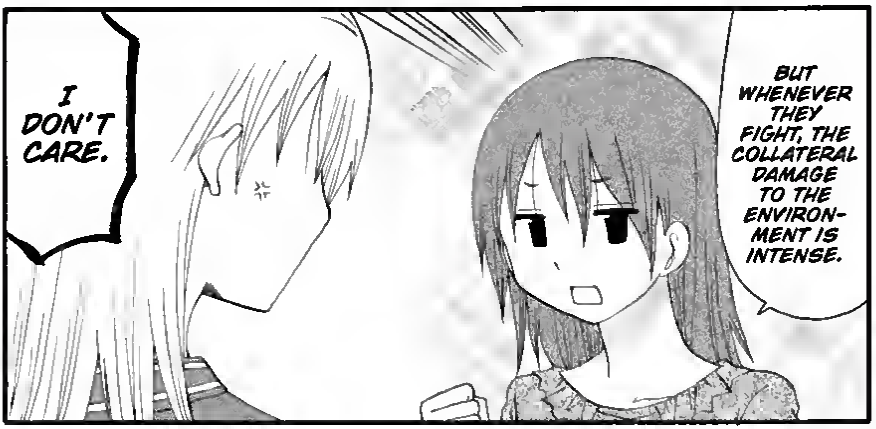
SIDE STORY②


DID YOU JUST CALL ME A TOY?
I SAID NO SUCH THING.

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO PLAY, SHALL WE STUDY?
STUDY NOTE
I SAID NO SUCH THING.
AH. I SEE YOUR BROTHER ISN'T HOME, AS USUAL.
I WON'T BE PLAYED WITH!!
GRRR!
GRRR!
OOH, WHAT THE HECK!? I'M NOT A TOY!
BRING IT ON!
ACQUAINTANCE OR NO, I WON'T GO EASY ON YOU. I HOPE YOU'RE PREPARED.
TEMP OR NO, I WON'T TURN DOWN THE GUIDANCE OF A WORKING PUBLIC SERVANT!
NOTE
THAT'S A GREAT IDEA. IN FACT, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WAS DOING.
!!?
IT WAS THE YEAR 20XX .....
AHEM...

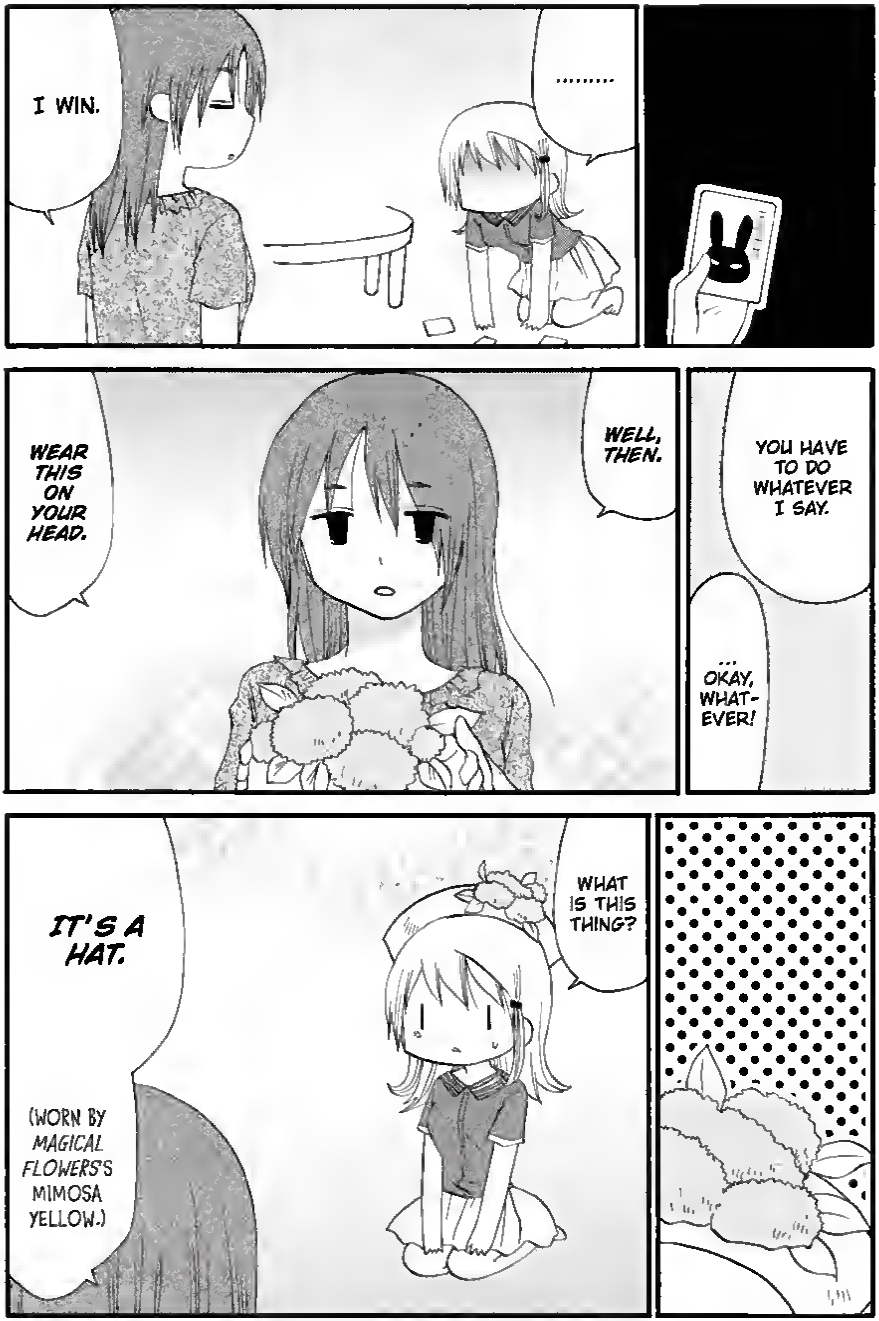

...BIRD...GET?
"BHARDGET"?
AN EVIL ORGANIZATION BY THE NAME OF BHARDGET AIMED TO DESTROY ALL OF THE PLANTS IN THE WORLD.

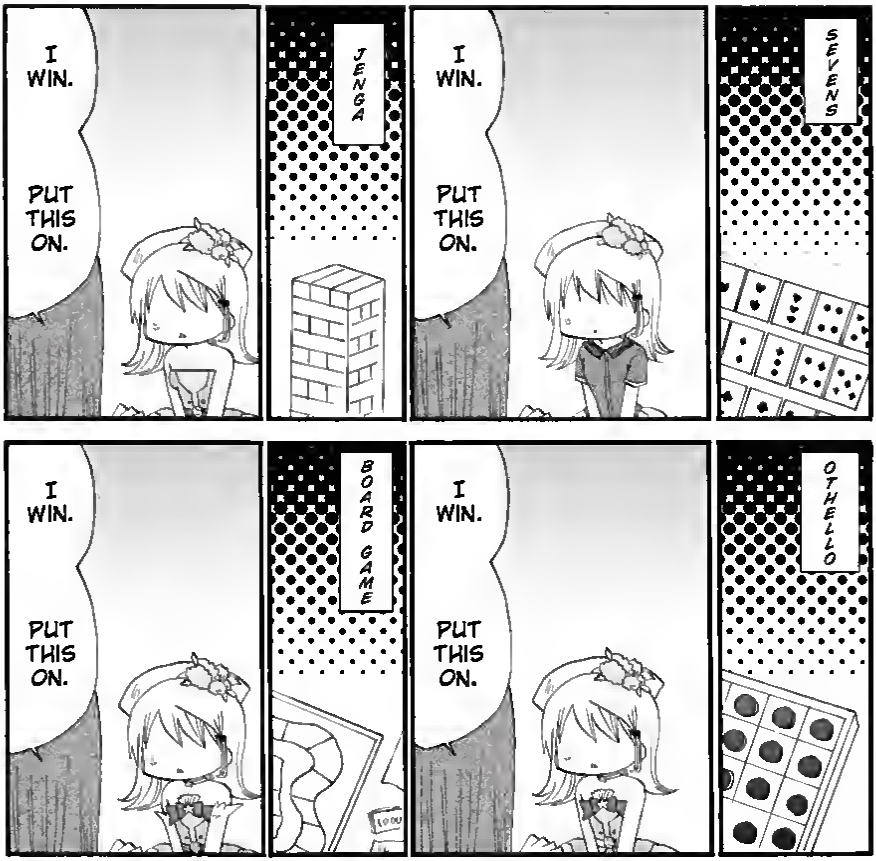

...FIGHT TO PROTECT NATURE IN AN ECO-FRIENDLY, PTA-APPROVED MAGICAL GIRL ANIME.
THAT IS MAGICAL FLOWERS.
TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM THE EVIL DEEDS OF BHARDGET...
...GARBELLA, ROSE, HYDRANGEA, LUPINUS, AND MIMOSA...
...THE FIVE GUARDIANS WHO'D BEEN GRANTED THE AFFECTIONS OF THE HOLY FLOWER SEEDS...


I DON'T CARE.
BUT WHENEVER THEY FIGHT, THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT IS INTENSE.

SOMEDAY, I'D LIKE FOR YOU TO BE MIMOSA. YOU'LL HAVE TO KNOW THE BASICS OF THE STORY.
BAM
ばんっ
I'M SO DONE WITH THAT!
I THOUGHT WE WERE STUDYING!
THIS IS ANIME STUDIES.
I DON'T WANT TO USE UP MY BRAIN CELLS ON SOMETHING SO USELESS!!
TEACH ME SOMETHING LIKE, YOU KNOW... TIPS ON HOW TO BECOME A PUBLIC SERVANT!
I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN HELP YOU THERE.
I'M ONLY A TEMP.
AND I ONLY GOT THIS POSITION BECAUSE OF MY PARENTS' CONNECTIONS-
WAAAAAH!
STOP!! SOME PEOPLE WORKED HARD FOR THEIR POSITIONS!!! DON'T TALK LIKE THAT!!!!

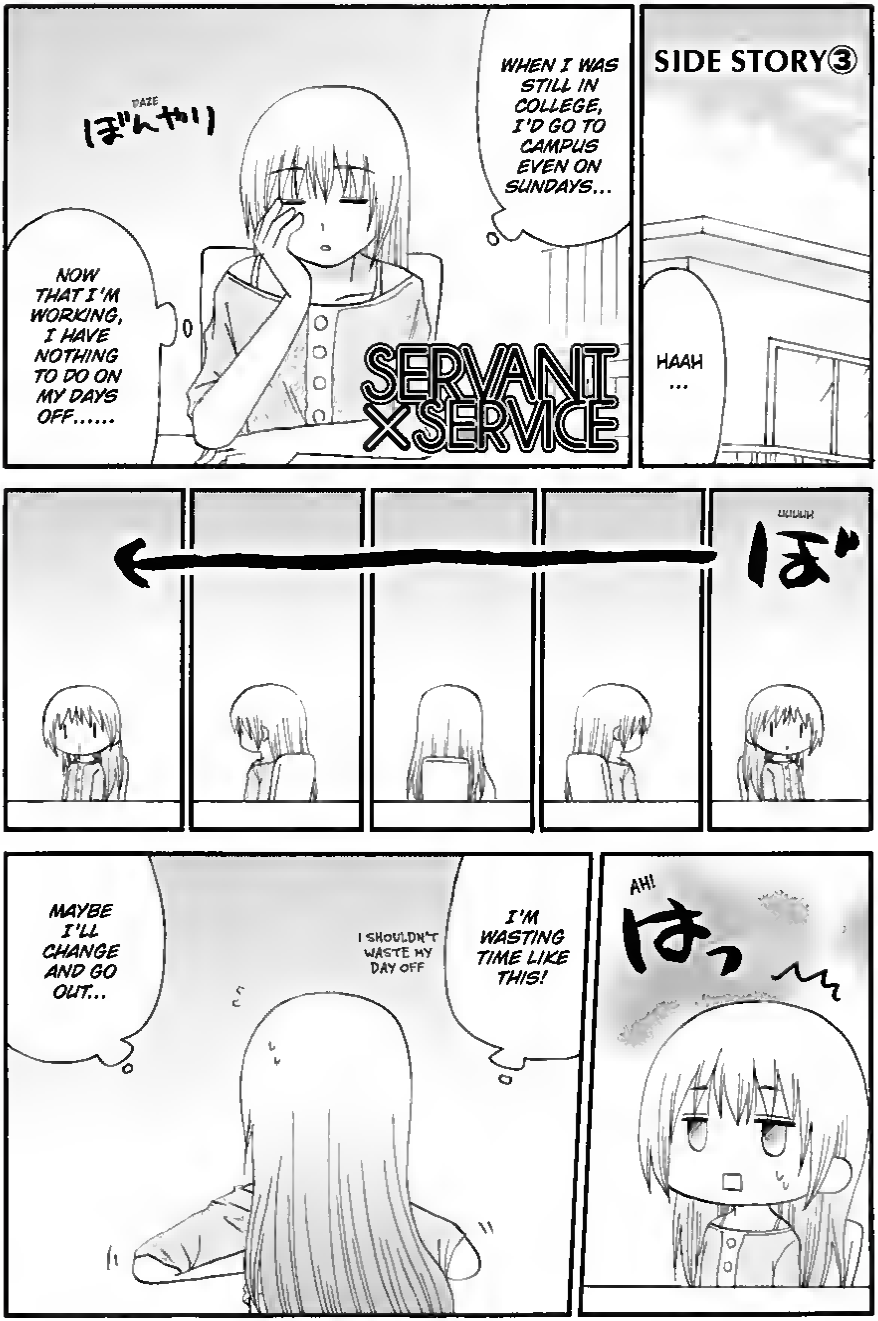
I AM NOT !!
I—
NO THANK YOU. YOU'RE TERRIBLE AT GAMES...
I GIVE UP! FORGET IT! LET'S JUST HANG OUT.
EHHH ...
... WHEN YOU GET SERIOUS ...?
I'M TOTALLY AWESOME AT GAMES WHEN I GET SERIOUS!
THAT'S SO NOT TRUE!
YOU HAVE NO POKER FACE, AND YOU GET UPSET EASILY ...
...THEN WE'LL START WITH OLD MAID.
SMIRK ニヤリ
YEAH! YOU'RE ON!!
THEN WHOEVER LOSES HAS TO DO ONE THING THE WINNER SAYS.
IS THAT ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU GET SERIOUS?


I WIN.
.....
WEAR THIS ON YOUR HEAD.
WELL, THEN.
YOU HAVE TO DO WHATEVER I SAY.
...OKAY, WHAT-EVER!
IT'S A HAT.
(WORN BY MAGICAL FLOWERS'S MIMOSA YELLOW.)
WHAT IS THIS THING?


I WIN.
PUT THIS ON.
JENGA
I WIN.
PUT THIS ON.
SEVENS
I WIN.
PUT THIS ON.
BOARD GAME
I WIN.
PUT THIS ON.
OTHELLO

I'M HOME ...
!?
YES, YOU ARE WEAK AT GAMES ALSO.
TO THINK SHE HASN'T REALIZED WHAT SHE LOOKS LIKE EVEN AFTER EVERYTHING SHE'S PUT ON.. HER BRAIN CELLS ARE WEAK.
L-LOOK, I JUST DON'T PLAY GAMES THAT OFTEN, THAT'S ALL, OKAY?
...YOU TRULY ARE WEAK.
GRR ...

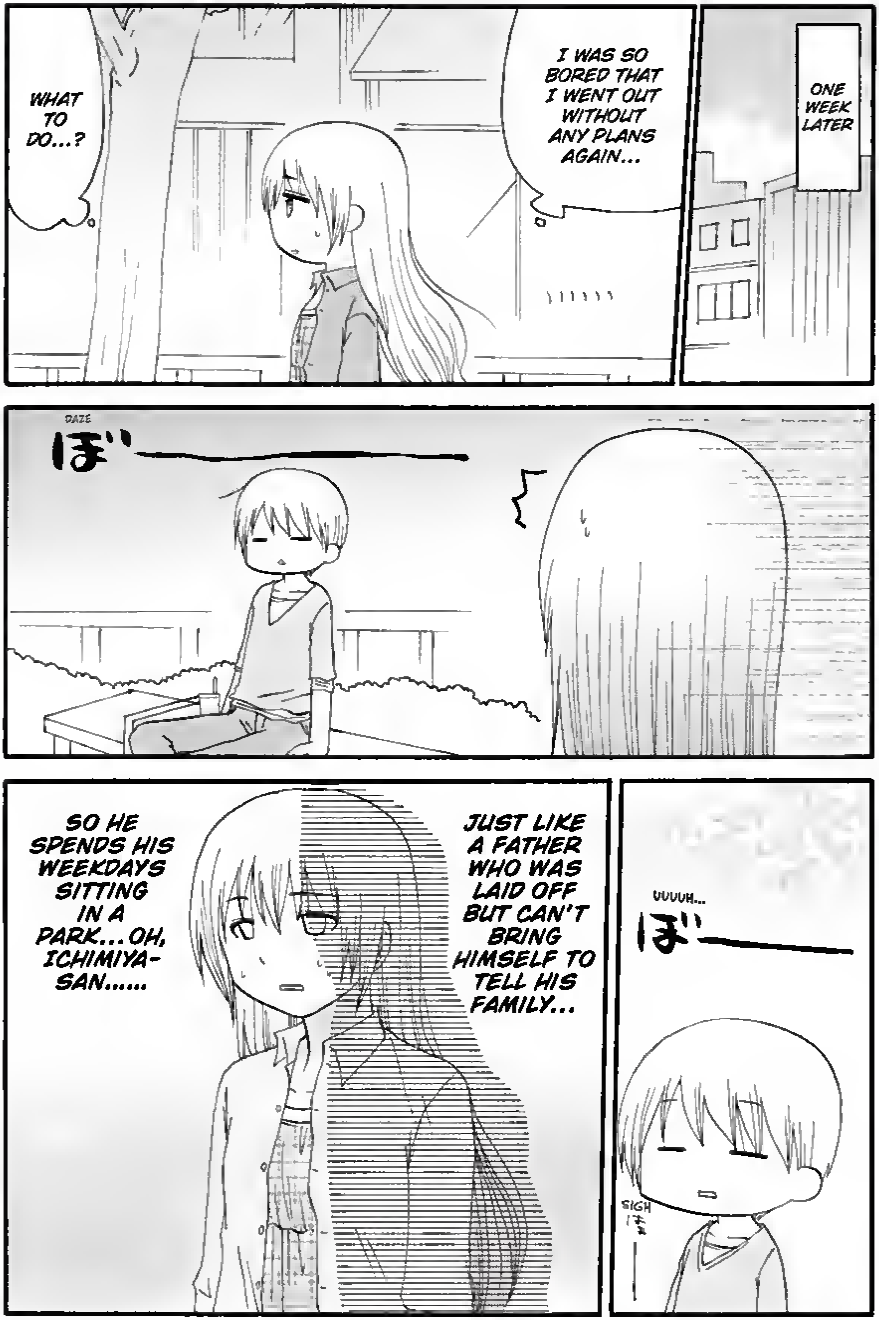
MEGU
CHIHAYA-SAN, DON'T TOY WITH MY KID SISTER!
I THOUGHT SHE'D WISE UP ALONG THE WAY, BUT I GOT HER TO WEAR THE ENTIRE COSPLAY OUTFIT.
?
WH— WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
? WHAT'S WITH YOU?
OH,
YOU'RE BACK.
WELL, YOU DON'T PLAY WITH HER...
I'M GOING HOME.
S... SURE. BYE.
? WHAT'S WRONG?
..... NOTHING ..
ACHE
キュッ
ACHE

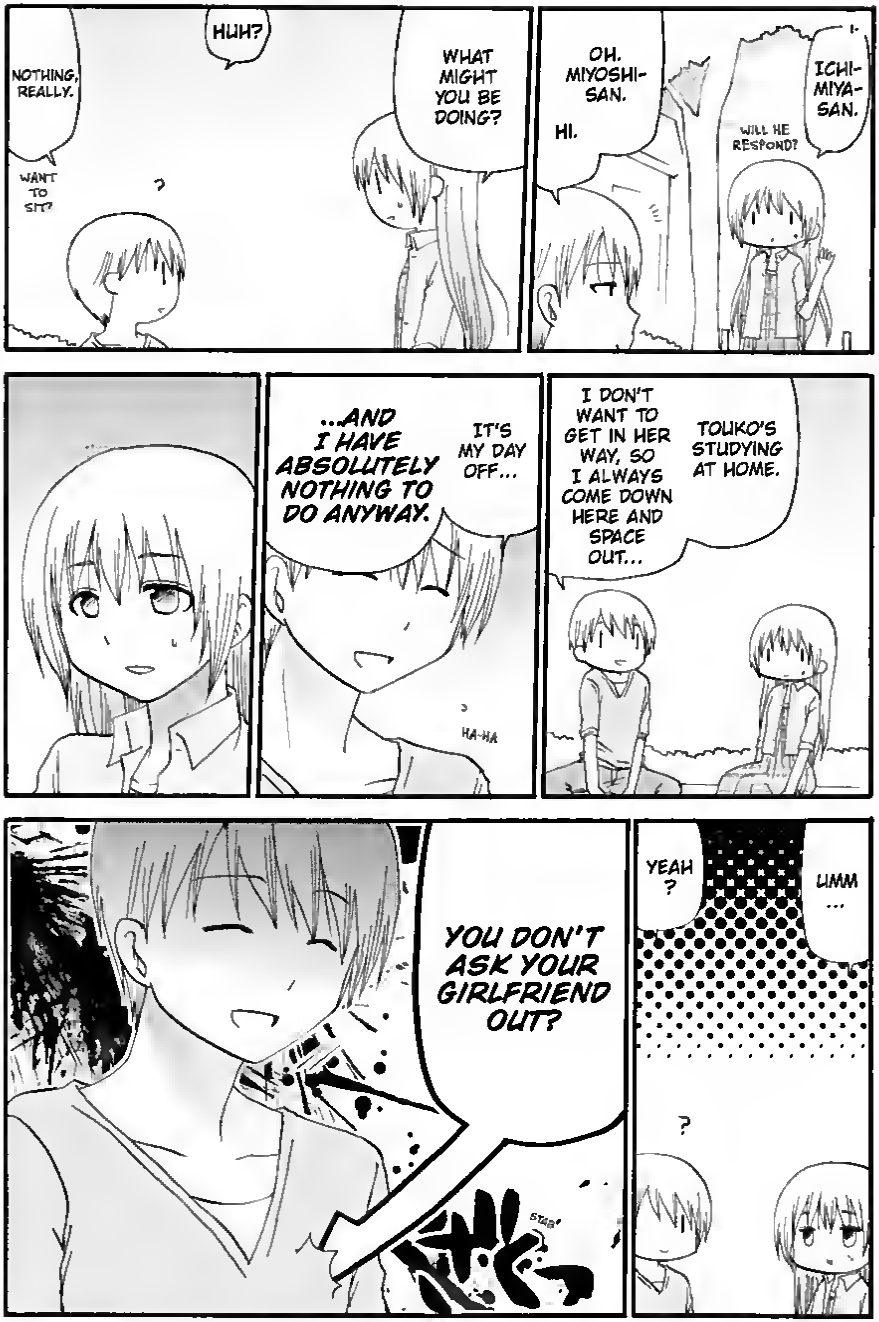

SIDE STORY③
SERVANT×SERVICE
ぼんやり
daze
WHEN I WAS STILL IN COLLEGE, I'D GO TO CAMPUS EVEN ON SUNDAYS...
NOW THAT I'M WORKING, I HAVE NOTHING TO DO ON MY DAYS OFF.....
HAAH...
uuuuu
ぼ
MAYBE I'LL CHANGE AND GO OUT...
I SHOULDN'T WASTE MY DAY OFF
I'M WASTING TIME LIKE THIS!
AH!
はっ

IS THAT HASEBE-SAN?
BAM BAM BAM

HEEEY, MIYOSHI-CHAN!
WHAT UP?
THAT'S QUITE A CHANGE!
PERFECT! NEW HIGH SCORE!
DID YOU HAVE SOME BAD LUCK?
HUH? DID I?
OH, I'M JUST DAWDLING ABOUT...
HOW ABOUT YOU, HASEBE-SAN? YOU LOOKED... DEAD INSIDE.
TOOK ME A RAD LOAD OF TIME TOO
THIS 18+...
THIS...DATING SIM I WAS PLAYING. I FINISHED COLLECTING ALL OF THE SPECIAL EVENT CGs IN IT, AND THE BONUS IT UNLOCKED WAS A HUGE BUMMER.....
I'M NOT SURE WHAT THAT MEANS, BUT I DO KNOW IT'S SOMETHING INCREDIBLY STUPID.
AH!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF TO TELL ME...
GLOOM

IF YOU HAVE TIME FOR IMAGINARY PEOPLE, WHY DON'T YOU ASK YAMAGAMI-SAN OUT ON A REAL DATE?
STAB
ざくっ
MORE OR LESS.
DATING SIMS... THOSE ARE THE VIDEO GAMES WHERE YOU DATE FICTIONAL GIRLS, CORRECT?
.....
DRUM CHAMP
SEE YA!
GOOD-BYE.
I SHOULD GO.
YOU GOT ME.
AHA HA HA HA..
I'M ...
CHAK
チャリ
...A TOTAL LOSER.
THAT GIRL IS AMAZING!
PERFECT! NEW HIGH SCORE!


WHAT TO DO...?
I WAS SO BORED THAT I WENT OUT WITHOUT ANY PLANS AGAIN...
ONE WEEK LATER
DAZE
ぼ
SO HE SPENDS HIS WEEKDAYS SITTING IN A PARK... OH, ICHIMIYA-SAN.....
JUST LIKE A FATHER WHO WAS LAID OFF BUT CAN'T BRING HIMSELF TO TELL HIS FAMILY...
UUUUH...
ぼ
SIGH
はぁ


HUH?
NOTHING, REALLY.
WANT TO SIT?
WHAT MIGHT YOU BE DOING?
OH. MIYOSHI-SAN.
HI.
ICHI-MIYA-SAN.
WILL HE RESPOND?
...AND I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO ANYWAY.
IT'S MY DAY OFF...
HA-HA
I DON'T WANT TO GET IN HER WAY, SO I ALWAYS COME DOWN HERE AND SPACE OUT...
TOUKO'S STUDYING AT HOME.
YOU DON'T ASK YOUR GIRLFRIEND OUT?
STAB
YEAH?
UMM...
?

I THINK WE CAN ASSUME THAT SHE'S NOT THERE JUST FOR TOUKO-SAN, BUT TO SEE YOU TOO...
SH-SHE COMES OVER ALL THE TIME. TO HANG OUT WITH MY SISTER.
GACK.
ISN'T IT EVEN HARDER FOR THE WOMAN TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE?
I MEAN, UH...I DO...BUT I DUNNO IF I SHOULD BE TAKING THE INITIATIVE ...
GACK.
DO I SEEM LIKE I HAVE, UH, A GIRL-FRIEND?
EH?
OH! I, UM... JUST HAD A FEELING THAT YOU MIGHT...
AHA-HA-HA
THANKS ...
Y—YEAH. I WILL.
TREAT YOUR GIRLFRIEND DEARLY.
I'LL BE GOING, THEN.
.....
I'M ...
...A TOTAL LOSER.

*SHE DESTROYED APPROX-IMATELY TWO HEARTS.
...AND STILL HAVEN'T REALLY DONE ANYTHING...
TRUDGE とぼ"
SIGH.
I WENT OUT TWO WEEKENDS IN A ROW...
TRUDGE とぼ"
...LAST WEEK WAS HASEBE-SAN...
THIS WEEK WAS ICHIMIYA-SAN...
SO...
NEXT WEEKEND, I'M GOING OUT...
...AND FINALLY HAVING AN EXCITING WEEKEND!
NOT ONLY THAT, I RAN INTO COWORKERS BOTH TIMES. IT BARELY FELT LIKE A DAY OFF...
.....I'M STAYING INSIDE NEXT WEEK.
FOR (MY) SANITY'S SAKE.
CLENCH ぐっ
NEXT WEEK...
...I MIGHT END UP RUNNING INTO (YOUNG) TANAKA-SAN...

POSTSCRIPT

HERE WE ARE AT VOLUME 3. TO MY READERS, OLD AND NEW: GOOD MORNING, GOOD AFTERNOON, GOOD EVENING. THIS IS KARINO TAKATSU.

YOLUME 3 IS HERE ONLY ABOUT SIX MONTHS AFTER VOLUME 2 CAME OUT. THAT WAS FAST.

IN JULY, THE ANIME SERIES IS STARTING. I'M IN SHOCK. THEY'RE REALLY DOING IT? ARE THEY ABSOLUTELY SURE ABOUT THIS? I'VE DOUBLE-CHECKED AGAIN AND AGAIN, AND YES, IT'S REALLY HAPPENING. EVERYONE ON THE STAFF IS WORKING HARD FOR IT, AND I'M VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO WATCHING.

IT'S NOT BASED ON REAL-LIFE CIVIL SERVANTS, SO PLEASE ENJOY IT AS A WORK OF FANTASY.

AS FAR AS THE MAIN MANGA IS CONCERNED, WE SHOULD REACH THE END OF THE STORY IN THE NEXT VOLUME, BUT YOU CAN NEVER BE SURE WITH THESE KIDS OF MINE. I WOULD BE THRILLED IF YOU COULD WATCH OVER THEM UNTIL THE VERY END.

MAY WE MEET AGAIN IN VOLUME 4. IT WON'T BE COMING OUT AS QUICKLY AS THIS ONE, SO PLEASE BEAR WITH THE WAIT.

KARINO TAKATSU

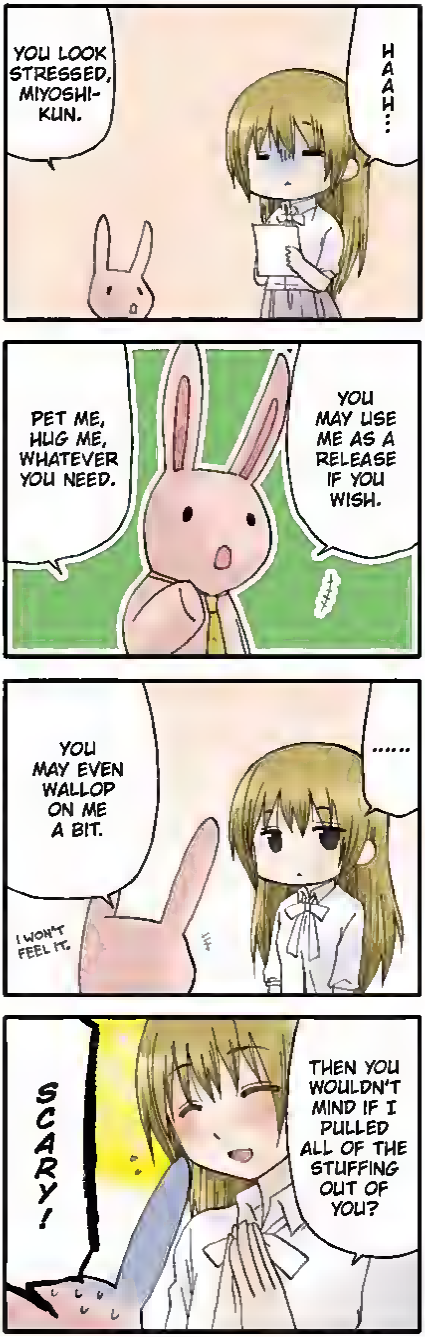
TO MY EDITOR AND MY ASSISTANTS: THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP.

DAZE
TAP
TAP
ON THE WAY HOME FROM WORK
FLINCH
HASEBE. STILL PLAYING VIDEO GAMES ALL THE TIME?
LOOM
GIVE THAT BACK!
AH!
AND OF COURSE IT'S ANOTHER DATING SIMULATION GAME, HUH...?
DON'T GIVE ME THAT PITYING LOOK!!!!
...THIS GIRL LOOKS A LOT LIKE YAMAGAMI-SAN...

UMM ...
UH
ARE YOU SURE? WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT REAL WOMEN?
OF COURSE I DO!!
DO YOU STILL PAY ATTENTION TO REAL WOMEN?
HASEBE ...
ARE YOU OKAY?
'COS MY NAME'S YUTAKA...
OH!
YUKATAS AND STUFF ARE GREAT!
DON'T GIVE ME THAT PITYING LOOK!!!!

SERVANT
SERVICE

FLAP BONUS


YOU LOOK STRESSED, MIYOSHI-KUN.
HAAH...
PET ME, HUG ME, WHATEVER YOU NEED.
YOU MAY USE ME AS A RELEASE IF YOU WISH.
YOU MAY EVEN WALLOP ON ME A BIT.
I WON'T FEEL IT.
.....
SCARY!
THEN YOU WOULDN'T MIND IF I PULLED ALL OF THE STUFFING OUT OF YOU?

SERVANT X SERVICE 3

Karino Takatsu

Translation: Amanda Haley • Lettering: D. Kim

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